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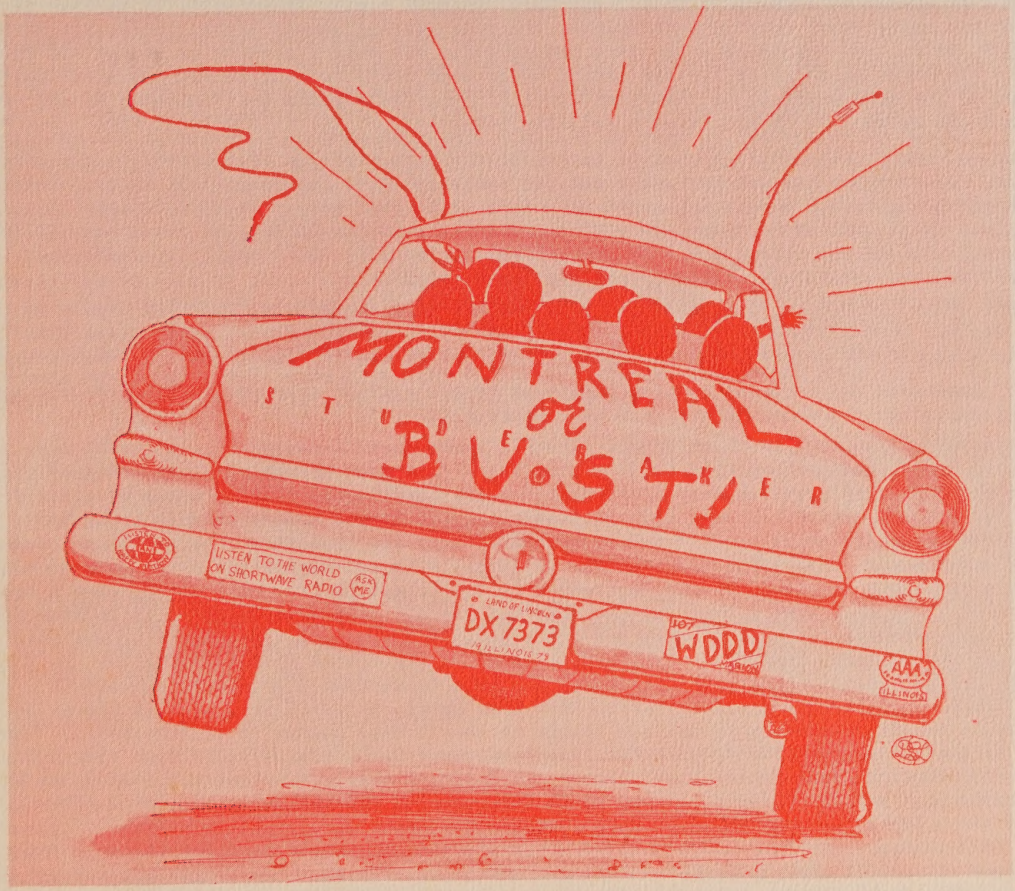
REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING



Edited and published by Glenn Hauser

Issue Seventeen July 1978

Listener Insights On Programing

C A N A D A (Alok Das Gupta, Calcutta, India) From a letter of Simone Milette of RCI English Audience Research I came to know that there is a transmission introduced on May 8th to the Middle East in English which can be picked up in the subcontinent, at 0615 & 0645 GMT (for 15 min each) Mon-Fri only. I think it is too late for the listeners in the ME + subcontinent (local time 1145 & 1215 IST) as at this time most listeners are either going to colleges or at offices, etc. I don't know who will listen to this program. Moreover we can hear it Sats & Suns but on those days there is no transmission. So I would like to request thru RIB that RCI should broadcast at 1530-1600 English to Eastern Europe/Asia/Middle East from their UK base on all days including Sundays DX Digest (by GH). Meanwhile the transmission in English at 1545-1600 are being heard regularly throughout the year (during summer 17820, 15315, and in winter 11935, 9555). OR introduce a separate transmission for Asia listeners or change the 0615 & 0645 transmission to an early time like 0300 or 0400 hours running 30 minutes at a time, all days of the week using 13 or 16m from UK base. This could get a good feedback in the subcontinent as well as in the ME at a suitable time.

(Steve Kennedy, FL) RCI's DX Corner is one of the best produced DX programs on the air. Where else can you hear every Sunday our own famous gh give the hottest DX news, somewhat interesting topical DX discussions, and the other tripe what make this show so appealing. Really Ian! Who cares about telephone systems, amateur radio in Canada, or about the GRS (CB)! Please, tell us more about the ITU WARC convention in 1979! I am really worried about the shift in bands proposed. This may make my SW-4A obsolete!

(Capt. R. A. Serenberg, Jr., FL) Good news for RCI SWLs who grunted about DX Digest in two segments. Try RCI Sundays at 1920 GMT, programs to Europe and Africa at the same time. Those with ambidextrous ears can get ole' Glen H. Edition #1 and #2 simultaneously. How's that?

gh: Sometimes the European service starts DX Digest earlier than the African, so you can hear one after the other rather than simultaneously.

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) Re DX Digest--I don't take notes on everything, nor do I tape record it. I just listen. Terrible, huh? Not really. If I hear something I'm interested in, I jot it down--if I miss other stuff, I don't really care 'cause my time would be already taken up in chasing down what I want to. DX Digest is just like a news broadcast in my book. But copying/recording every word??? God...you REALLY know you're a DXer when you've got a phobia for missing out on anything new, even if it's just a test transmission of Radio Loudmouth. You expect that anyone genuinely interested in the latest DX tips will surely have a tape recorder? I suppose that's true for the DXer who has all that money to blow on international postage, attachments and club dues and other assorted garbage not necessary to maintain one's health and welfare. But hell, if I hadn't found my ole Webcor (Brand X) Special, at a rummage sale for a couple of bucks, where would I be? Not to mention I've had to rebuild it a couple of times. I think you'd better get to know your entire audience a little bit better before you jump to expecting them to do certain things if they indeed happen to be interested. They can be interested without owning gadgetry, you know. Good thing you did slow down some, tho, for there were plenty of times an item went by me before I really realized what hit me as being so interesting, and if realized, it had to be forgotten in the rush of other items after it. Let's not try to cram an elephant into a VW, hey?

The Mailbag is rather bland, but I don't criticise the people handling it for goofing off unless it REALLY takes up a LOT of time for nothing. It has, a few times, but not all that much. You know what I'd like to see? Diane answering the mail and one of the guys reading 'em, or an alternation of turns, instead of a guy answering all the time.

gh: You talk as if one had to be wealthy to own a tape recorder. Anyone who can afford a cheap SW receiver can also afford a cheap cassette tape recorder. A TR has a multitude of uses, including preserving/delaying programs. Every SWL should have this capability.

(Pete Grenier, CA) In response to Mr. Goldstein's comments on RCI programs in RIB 16. He says he wishes they would tighten up the rest of the program. I think the mixture of Mailbag

and DX Digest are just fine the way they are now; don't change. As for taking notes on GH's reports, I also suggest that Mr. G invest in a tape recorder. I can't see how any serious DX-er or SWL can get along without one. Also, I suggest to Mr. Goldstein that he listen in to RCI the rest of the week, to get 'a much better view of Canadian life, culture, humor on a regular basis'.

(Louis Goldstein, MA) Yes, I said that CBC NS dropped daily UTC 0004 programs. I also said that my suggestion would extend domestic relay of CBC ½ hour each weeknight on 5960 kHz so a world wide audience could enjoy the network CBC offering that has been dropped by NS. There is no contradiction anywhere that I can see. Some new shows are offered by CBC NS Mon-Fri at 1804-1830 UTC. Mon, AFTERNOON THEATRE. Tues, SERIAL. Wed, AFTERNOON THEATRE. Thurs, CRIME SERIAL. Fri, SOUVENIRS FROM CAPE BRETON. GILMOUR'S ALBUMS has been rescheduled to 1905-2000 UTC Sats. Summer schedule now available from CBC NS.

gh: I had assumed that because CBC NS dropped the 0004 programs, domestic CBC AM radio may also have done so. 5960 hardly serves a world-wide audience. Can hardly get it here summers before sunset. They badly need to go up to 9 MHz at least. The new CBC NS sked (tnx, Ian!) shows "Focus North" in the Tue-Sat 0000-0030 slot. Recent tapings of "Morningside" Mon at 1530-1600 when Steven Freygood used to review SW broadcasts, have been lacking this very enjoyable feature. Has it been rescheduled, dropped, or on vacation? I do wish that RCI would run it as a regular feature when we would have no problem with reception. Some other CBC NS programs--"Territorial News", Tue-Sat at 0300-0320, followed by "Nightcap" 0320-0400, which often includes arts interviews done on the side by familiar voices from NPR. "The Food Show" (from farm to table) is on Suns at 1230-1300. "Royal Canadian Air Farce" is off for the summer from July 9 to Oct. 1 inclusive; what else will show in the Sun 1705-1735 slot? "Summer Stage" is just beginning a run, Suns at 2005-2100. I especially enjoy "Armchair Traveller", Mons at 0410-0500, with Bob Brazil interviewing travelers at a Montréal restaurant I happened to patronize a year ago. One recent show gave lots of (discouraging) information about visiting the Galápagos Islands, something I have been seriously considering.

C H I N A (Chris Hambly, 47 Chessell St., Box Hill North, Victoria, Australia 3129) Radio Peking has changed their sign on and sign off format. They still sign on with the chimes but they don't play the International after them; they go straight into the news. And at sign off they don't play the International; instead, a piece of music on a national instrument, a welcome change. You might be interested to know that I am planning to come to the US on Nov. 23 for a 16-day west-coast tour. Maybe we could arrange to meet on the West Coast?

gh: Doubt I could manage it, but there are lots of organized DXers in California. Perhaps your visit would coincide with a SCADS or BARF meet. An undated, and possibly ancient type-set form letter just received from R. Peking mentions these weekly programmes. Sun, "Listeners' Letterbox". Mon, "Across the Land". Tue, "China in Construction". Wed, "The Third World Marches On". Thu, "Culture in China". Fri, "In the People's Commune". Sat, "Music from China " and on Mon & Wed, "Learn to Speak Chinese".

(Larry Ledlow, TX) With the ratio of TVs to people over 1:800, I hear Peking's TV service is being expanded from two channels to five. Most of the programs are educational, but get this--they want to teach French and Japanese. That reminds me of some show on PBS, Guten Tag, after Sesame Street. Speaking of German, it looks like R. Peking will become known officially as the International Broadcasting Station of the People's Republic of China. What does that have to do with German? It seems the Chinese are taking the same attitude toward language as the Germans: Never use one word where 10 will do.

gh: Would you believe, never use two words, where 9 will do ??

C H I L E (Henry Rockwood, FL) The Voice of Chile is one of the few broadcasters that I can receive clearly since transferring to Florida. I wonder if they realize that their programming is no better than what they are trying to combat. I for one would like to hear an anti-communist broadcaster other than R. RSA that could get over the tendency to paranoia and present a sensible argument. VOC's only redemption is the music.

(Rob Harrington, CO) Thank you Marck Basick for what you said about Voice of Chile. I heard on R. Clarin that they got VOC to move off of 11705 so we USA DXers could have a clear frequency for R. Clarin on 11700. VOC is now on 11765, 15140, 17715. You can hear English at 0000, 0130, 0300, 0430 and 0530. Each transmission is of 20 min talk, 10 min music. I have a friend who just returned from Chile. He was there for over 1½ years; what you say, Mark, is very true! I really enjoy listening to Voice of Chile. Here is a list of other frequencies: 17800, 17713, 15290, 15150, 15140, 15130, 15115, 11800, 11810, 11925, 11705, 11799, 9566, 9560, 9565, 9530 and 6190 all have been reported in the last 6 months in DSWCI, SPEEDX, NASWA, WDXC, WWDXC, ASWLC and CIDX. Keep your eye open for more frequency changes that will probably be made by Voice of Chile. I understand from DSWCI that VOC has not answered any mail since April 1977 and they probably won't start answering their mail for a few more months from now. Does any one know why they are not answering their mail? Let me know if you know the true answer.

gh: I assume you are referring to Bob Pinchuk, in RIB-16, not Mark Basick.

(Bob Pinchuk, NJ) Regarding your commentary on page 5 I think it was, on my commentary on Chile in June RIB. What you said is bullshit, to put it bluntly!!! Having done numerous papers for school, and many hours of INDEPENDENT research outside of the radio and in the library, and other sources known to be reliable, including some Generals of the US Armed Forces, I have found almost all of the information and much of the data broadcast over the VOC to be FACTUAL!! I did not fall for their "Hook, line and sinker" as you call it, but gathered this information from the books and microfilm of the area libraries. And in my opinion it does have a connection to International Broadcasting because when you listen to their broadcasts (which you evidently don't) most of their commentary and news pertains to political events and happenings that the layman may not understand if he doesn't know how or why the coup took place. Oh, it was 300,000 in Burundi; the 800,000 was a typo. Secondly, I agree with Bill Whitacre in May RIB. Bill is a corresponding editor in the East Coast DX Alliance Newsletter.

gh: Well, EXCUSE ME!! All this independent research wasn't obvious to me. Having served in the U.S. Air Farce, I wouldn't trust a General any further than I could throw him....

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) "Less digression, please." Here we go again! With regard to Bob Pinchuk's comment about Chile, you were sorely tempted to digress yourself. You even printed the comment, and put in your own two-pence worth. Ain't it awful, Glenn, how much good discussion has to be bypassed for the sake of 'sticking to the subject'? But what IS the subject? Listeners' Insights on Programming? ANYTHING can lend insight to programming, and especially with politics, when it comes to SW. So where do you draw the line? But, hell, you're the editor. If you consider the stuff digressing, why do you print it? ...

(Dario Monferini, Italy) If you wish enjoy the Chilean Italian service, you will find it irregulary (they must avoid the jammers) but if you will find it the result will be an happy meeting with some lazy readers which read the Italian vocabulary with opposites results respect the opinion of Chilean govern, so you will hear about "our friend in East Germany", "Our help to fighting countries against capitalist"...if you don't believe, drop me a line. I will send the text of these fabolous 'programs'.

D E N M A R K (Bruce Boomer, European rail passenger) Yes, Danmarks Radio is still there, trying to reach the Danish world with 50 kW. As always, they hope to get a 500 kW transmitter, but it seems not to be much further along than the dream stage. Broadcasting in English is still illegal due to Danish law but the station saves its letters which still come in asking why there is no English anymore. The station does now QSL reports from all over the world, since previous non-verifying policy severely cut the flow of mail. Meanwhile, the 4-person staff (2 announcers & 2 secretaries) hopes that Denmark's voice will once again be important in the future.

D O M I N I C A N R E P U B L I C (Steve Kennedy, FL) R. Clarín's "This Is Santo Domingo" is one of the best done programs on SW. Rudi's unrehearsed-impromptu style makes this show a winner. I especially enjoy the tapes he plays from DXers, and this gives the program a personal

approach. Unfortunately, R. Clarín is not always well heard here. There is considerable QRM from about 4 other stations on the same frequency at the same time. I have also noticed a lot of hash from jamming transmitters near 11700 kHz, as well as RTTY QRM. I wish other stations would give R. Clarín a break. Or better yet, R. Clarín pick an out-of-band frequency!

(Mike Barraclough, England) Clarín reception is negative in Europe at present (May 20), at least up until midnight local it is. Pity. Though I heard a BBC news item that the opposition candidate was leading in the elections which had thus been held up by the armed forces. So perhaps the situation at Clarín will be affected by all this.

(Shortwave News Service, a.k.a. C. M. Stanbury II, Ont.) As they had planned, R. Clarín was noted on 11700 kHz at 2218 GMT May 16 IDing as "La Voz de la Junta Central Electoral" and a similar ID was heard at 2350. That was about the only thing which went as planned for R. Clarín. At dawn May 17, after the opposition Revolutionary Party presidential candidate had taken a clear lead (acc. to Reuter in the May 18 Toronto Globe & Mail), the Dominican military seized JCE HQ thereby halting the vote count. The 11700 kHz outlet was missing throughout that day (May 17) but was on again at 0143 May 18 with Clarín IDs, records and time check. At 0159 there was an announcement from the JCE. R. Clarín was then monitored on 860 kHz from 0745 with Clarín ID including SW frequencies, followed by non-stop records. 11700 was missing again at 1410 check May 18. Between 0715 and 0800 May 19, a weak unidentified LA could be heard on 860 but this did not seem to be Clarín, although the home service was on 11700 kHz at 1910 tune-in and the international service signed on at 2000. During Rudy Espinal's English transmissions that date he featured his own version of the election crisis. This included much criticism of the electoral junta, a defense of the Dominican military (he claimed that the JCE was placed under military 'surveillance' because of the military coup rumors), much praise for the incumbent President Balaguer (his party was still claiming victory on the basis of late returns), a defense of Clarín's slow reporting of returns after Balaguer fell behind (remember, all DR stations were required to relay the returns from Clarín), an attack on the 'international press' (Espinal claimed persecution of the third world), claimed foreign governments were pressuring the DR govt on behalf of the opposition Revolutionary Party candidate, and a brief attack on the Revolutionary Party itself. This tape was repeated May 20. On May 24 Espinal was still claiming his broadcasts were non-political. On May 26 he conceded that the opposition candidate Antonio Guzmán had won. This was followed by essentially the same political line as on the May 19 & 20 broadcasts except there were no further attacks on the opposition Revolutionary Party. At 2240 that same date, during a Spanish language broadcast, Clarín was still attacking 'intervention' in DR's electoral process by the U.S., Venezuela, Costa Rica and Panamá. Finally on the May 31 broadcasts Espinal said the R. Clarín had many govt announcements on "AM" which helped finance shortwave, and due to uncertainty about the new government's policies, SW would be cut back to five hours a day with sign-on at 2300.

(Allen P. Abel, IL) The first time I ever heard Radio Clarín was on 19 May, which was apparently also the first day they were back on the air following the election. Rudy Espinal used this show to explain the complicated political situation, but it came out sounding like pro-government propaganda. He has been spending a lot of time since then blasting the foreign press for inaccurate reporting. Rudy should stick to what he does best--the friendly voice from Santo Domingo--and leave the propaganda to Radio Havana and the Voice of Chile.

(Richard Stoller, NY) I am very angry at the poor reception of Clarín; no, for me Radio Moscow's Spanish service is not the problem: it's those dingbats at PRB! (Libya). Till they close at 0100, 11700 is just horrible! The 'novelty', so to speak, of Rudy and TISD has worn off a bit, but it's still pretty interesting. Not as interesting, mind you. I can only listen to Rudy backtrack X amount of times before he begins to sound like an Hispanic Tom Meijer. In fact, the Happy Station and TISD are becoming distressingly similar. Thank God Rudy doesn't have 3 relay sites to ramble about (He contents himself with rambling on about 1200/2000/2300/0300 programs, etc.) But I suppose what sets RN and R. Clarín apart must be their respective countries. Holland's a nice place, I'm sure, but it appears (from my vantage point) that the last important thing to happen to Holland was WW II (OK, well, the Queen abdicated in '48, plus Lockheed scandals with Prince Bernhard, but that's about it.) Not the case with the D.R. Some

how it is more interesting, at least to my mind. The recent history of the DR has an unmistakable quality (violence?) that always seems to make it worth watching. One more note: On a recent TISD, Rudy said 1200 was being dropped, and he somehow connected that to the fact that Guzmán won the elections. What sense does that make? Clarín is private and non-governmental, so what does it matter?

gh: The way I heard it, Rudy said that because of their close cooperation with the Balaguer government, which isn't due to turn over the country to Guzmán until some time in August, R. Clarín had considerable income from the Sunday broadcasts of National Lottery results. This income would be lost with Guzmán in power. It had just about covered the expenses of the international service. The last TISD was heard on Thursday, June 15. At the expected times on Friday, June 16, there was instead a 'special' program in Spanish. And as of June 17, R. Clarín was missing from 11700, and continued to be silent when checked every day through June 30. Perhaps R. Clarín is gone for good as an international broadcaster, or perhaps a tube merely burnt out. I hope to have some news on the situation on the July 9 DX Digest.

E C U A D O R (Richard Stoller, NY) On a Saturday at 2045-2100, I heard the HCJB French service on 17755 with an excellent "Musique Folklorique" program, consisting of various Andean horn/guitar/vocal pieces, plus some nice non-Andean material, too. Another example of good programs to be found (or I should say "to be hunted down") on SW. Also Weds at 2030.

gh: Try 21480. Much superior reception now that they've activated 13m. Everytime someone criticizes HCJB, you can be sure Jeff White will come right back with a rebuttal:

(Jeff White, IL) It's hardly fair to compare the Hare Krishnas' 'sales' techniques with those of HCJB. The Krishnas are very active at O'Hare Airport in Chicago and a friend of mine was recently attacked by a Krishna who tried to pin some type of a badge on him. The Krishnas are forcing their views onto people, whereas HCJB is merely 'offering' its message to those who want to hear it. No one is being forced to listen to HCJB, but there are many people throughout this world who really want to hear what HCJB has to say, and I think they should have the opportunity to do so. HCJB is one of the very few sources of religious programming for many enslaved people in the Soviet Union, for example. I recently talked to Herb Jacobson of HCJB's "Project 500", who said that HCJB estimates it has at least a million regular listeners in the Soviet Union. HCJB is not forcing propaganda down these peoples' throats; it is offering them what they want to hear.

(Dinesh Gambhir, March CIDX Messenger, via SWNS) Many DXers and beginner SWLs are familiar with Sweden Calling DXers and DX Party Line. The latter has little to offer the experienced DXer. If you have to listen, the last five minutes are the best. DXPL is not particularly timely in its reports; it lacks originality and style. Of the very FEW good points of DXPL, the best are the weekly reports by SPEEDX (Sat.) and the Kapassa (sic) Report on Wednesday. If you're an interval 'freak', then tune in once a week for their Interval Signal Time feature. Of the many bad points, the one I hate the most is "Tips for Real Living'. Under the disguise of a DX program, HCJB tries to convert people to Christianity. This I believe is one of the greatest crimes. One should be free to choose his own religion without pressure being put on him. But these are my opinions. On a scale of 1-5, DXPL would get a 2.5.

gh: SWNS adds that this review caused controversy within CIDX. Its new publisher has pledged to keep 'political' content out of "Messenger" because it would discourage advertising.

(Steve Kennedy, FL) I agree that R. Moscow, R. Kiev, or for that matter, all other communist-socialist broadcast stations do not preach atheism, or blatantly state that there is no God. However, in hard core propaganda, it is implied that in order for one to be a good communist, one must disavow any existence of a Supreme Being. I will also agree that HCJB is somewhat too strong for a listener to enjoy; especially if he/she is part of the 'un-washed' multitudes. Granted, DX Partyline may not be the best DX program on SW, but I still feel it has a great deal of info which is not /otherwise/ available. The interval signal tapes have proven to be a great aid to beginner/novice SWLs. I myself enjoy and collect them. Where else will you find a station which will devote 7½ hours of its programming week just for us SWL/DX types?

Let's stop bantering back and forth about the merits of DX PL. I bet there would be a campaign to keep DXPL on the air if HCJB ever decided to cut it from its schedule! Let's give Clayton a break! DXPL is one of the few DX programs which can be easily heard and understood by the novice.

F I N L A N D (Charley Hoffman, PA) Radio Finland's recent QSL policy change requiring listener comments on programming along with a reception report to receive a QSL card is an excellent idea. More stations should follow in Radio Finland's footsteps and get the newcomer and pro DXer alike away from the "gimme QSL" approach to the SW hobby. The program director is just as anxious to receive comments of appreciation and criticism, on programming, as the head engineer interested in reception reports. It must be bewildering to spend countless hours and additional money on an already tight budget, to prepare a special program and not receive even one comment pro or con. Our favorite stations deserve better. Next time, send program comments along with that report.

(R. Finland) It might be good news. It might be bad news. It depends on how your look at it. The number of reception reports flooding in has risen to a level where we either have to hire more secretarial staff and cut back on our program-makers, or tighten up on QSL card policy. We've chosen the latter. Fron now on, a Radio Finland Audience Card is going to mean a lot more. From June 1st, the minimum details for a verified report are: 1 date 2 time (GMT) 3 frequency 4 program subject 5 comment on program 6 reception conditions. But to reward our faithful listeners and regular correspondents, we're bringing out a series of 12 Audience Cards, a different one for every month of the year. There will still be no charge for an Audience Card--no IRCs needed. We think this would be unfair to our younger listaners, and those in developing countries. And if the postal charges to Finland are too high for any listener, he or she is welcome to send their report to the nearest Finnish embassy.

One of the biggest surprises of the last 12 months for us has been the success of a course in the world's most difficult language. It seems that a lot of DXers and SWLs like nothing as much as a challenge. And Finnish does repay study. It's beautiful, it's musical, and it's very rare. What's more, much of the best of Finnish literature is not obtainable in translation, so listeners to our current "Tales from the Classics" series are hearing stories that only Finnish speakers had heard before.

Radio Finland's first course of Finnish by Radio has been so popular that we're going straight on with a more detailed course, for people with a real appetite for the language. "Starting Finnish" can be heard every Monday from June 5 to August 7, but we're likely to repeat it later in the year. We're already repeating our "Introduction to Finnish" in Sunday Best on four consecutive weeks, July 2 to 23. Course material is essential, and for "Intro" is available free from R. Finland, Box 95, Helsinki 25. Coursebook for "Starting", the more advanced course, is called "Suomea Suomeksi I", and is not available from R. Finland. You can get it for US$8 from Suomalaisen Kirjallisuuden Seura, Hallituskatu I, SF-00170 Helsinki.

F R A N C E (Ivan Grishin, June "DX Ontario") Here is what you can look forward to weekends on "Paris Calling Africa". Saturday -- Five minutes of French instrumental music precede each broadcast at 1600 GMT. African news, then, with reports from correspondents on the continent. Then the news bulletin about France, largely in relation to events in Africa, but coverage of overall French news is not ignored. The news from the rest of the world is next. The Saturday show concludes with the record request spot, entitled "Your Choice", hosted by Sandy Spencer. Sunday -- usually in this order: African news, French news, P.O.B. 9516 (PCA's mailbag), rest of the world news. All these news bulletins are interspersed with African and French musical selections. The highlight of the weekend on PCA is "Spotlight on Africa" usually following the rest of the world news bulletin on Saturday. This program deals with a topical event in Africa in depth. I recommend "PCA" to all who desire an overall and accurate view of life in Africa.

(Richard Stoller, NY) Public TV will air a special for Bastille Day, July 14 (at least in NY), a 3-hour block of typical French prime-time TV, dubbed, subtitled and narrated, etc. Should be

interesting. Unfortunately, PCA seems to give us more African culture than French.

G E R M A N Y W E S T (Dario Monferini, Italy) I really don't agree with the comments of our first lady Ms. Diana about Bayerischer Rundfunk. Why? Well at 0700-0800, what do you think a station trasmit? A concert? Or sinfonic music? Or cultural program? Here in Europe, almost all stations are used to put in the early morning modern music to wake up people..... and I wonder in Canada and USA if there is something of differents??? So I think before to make so drastical conseils it is better to listen more accurately a station and not only then.. you have time.

H U N G A R Y (gh, from Budapest International) Weekend features this month on R. Budapest, airing Sats 2100, Suns 0200, 0300, 1030, 2100, Mons 0300, 1030, 1430, are: Week of July 8, Musical Clowns; 15th, Pop Debuts; 22nd, True & False in Folk; 29th, Second Rosenbergs Lecture.

I R A N (Jim Weber, PA) There was one last 60m opening in May, and that was about it for the season. I find myself tuned to 15084 much of the time and I really enjoy the signal they throw. Regardless of what people say, there is programming on the higher frequencies and I was fortunate to hear some nice things that are encountered nowhere but on their indigenous wavelengths. R. Nederland has an Arabic relay from Bonaire that is really fine; I caught it at 1710 on 15220. I tried to get some of the World Cup games but didn't hear anything in English the first four days. I heard the first game in Persian, though. I am really curious if there was any play by play in English on SW. The announcers for the South American leagues are a riot; when a goal is scored, they go off like fire sirens. It's great to have that kind of zeal for a sport-aficionado. In Philadelphia, many hockey enthusiasts watch the Flyers with Radio Lara on in the background. I can remember trying to pick up some of the heavyweight fights, as well. If any people know of plans to broadcast sports events of international import, I wish they would let some people know about it. ... I have picked up some good music out of Switzerland and Russia but aside from specific programs, I get more musical enjoyment from the Arabs. Kalamabad is often piped through the stereo. There is just more stuff out there than I can get to; it's a shame. Radio is always good here.

(Larry Ledlow, Jr., TX) Has anybody grabbed the new Abadan transmitter on 576 or 1080 kHz? I've been trying for a month. You'd think with 19 hours of programming a day I'd be able to hear something, huh? At 1200 kW, I'm surprised I can't pick up the darned thing with my silver fillings!

I S R A E L (Louis Goldstein, MA) Some encouraging news from at least one international broadcaster. According to govt official interviewed on IBA, they see the great impact of the international SW audience and are seriously planning for expansion of SW service with emphasis on North American listeners.

L U X E M B O U R G (Richard Stoller, NY) Diane Lévesque's 15350 is probably R. Luxembourg. I sat on this frequency for a week, hearing only Western pop music and French announcers, but only got an ID on June 5 at 2330-0000 period. Fair sigs, but with a heavy het. Some good mx; 3 consecutive Stevie Wonder cuts, including the long (8 min or so) version of "Living for the City", which you don't even find on FM much of the time.

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) I got a card from Dave Walcutt saying what I heard on 15350 wasn't Zaire but Luxembourg. Talk about Zaire & Central Africa doesn't constitute an ID, but it sure can throw ya... ON THE SAME DAY I got my RIB which carried my comments on the subject! Boy, the PO sure do strange things....

gh= Not this time; Dave and I had discussed the 15350 affair on the phone before RIB went out.

M O R O C C O (Richard Stoller, NY) I think that RTVM must run more radioplays than any other SWBCer! Whenever I tune in, I hear a radioplay!! On old 15360, even on 6190; and on their new frequencies 21735 and 15155, heard around 1345 past 1401 May 27 with--Radioplay, in Arabic.

N E T H E R L A N D S (Jan M. Collins, OR) R. Nederland's new show on Wednesdays, "Studio Six" is a winner. A nice mix of light music and interesting commentary based upon listeners' questions.

(Steve Kennedy, FL) DX Jukebox has really deteriorated. Not only does Dick Speekman answer more or less the same technical questions every week, but the signal is not as good as it should be from Bonaire! DXJB has seen better days!

gh: Well, at least the DX reports are now more timely due to the satellite feed, which began about a week before scheduled July 1--a two-week lead instead of five weeks.

(Todd Thompson, CA) Why do they call Jan Tunér's DX Jukebox report 'the Scandinavian DX Report"? "Latin American DX Report" would be more accurate. Why isn't there more news about Scandinavian DX (to and from that area)? I have nothing against L.A. DX, but there is a time and place for everything. I don't think his entire report should be dedicated to another continent. The other 'jukebox' reporters, from NZ, Sri Lanka, and gh from USA, usually cover a good mix of stations beamed both to and from their respective areas. Few LA's are beamed to Scandinavia, and though LA DX may be big in that area, I think a little moderation is in order.

(Dick Speekman, Holland) Our problem with outgoing mail delays is that my only English-language typist, capable of transcribing off my dictation machine, has been 'ill' and away from the office for more than 5 months on account of being severely overworked. I have to keep her job open, and the temp can handle only 8 letters a day, whereas she has to do an average of 200 per week just to keep abreast. The point is, DXJB is only one of my responsibilities (I've already had to give away 'the Work and People' due to lack of time). I also read the news at times, see visitors, perform PR at random, turn into a journalist and generally run the English Section as well as roam about Europe. The 2130 transmission was stopped due to lack of staff. Of our 12 announcers, we now have four Africans, mainly doing the Afroscene, and they sometimes read the news for Africa. But they are quite incomprehensible for any other area, so they cannot be used for North America. Maintaining that 2130 would therefore mean having someone come in specially to do that transmission only. After all, the next one goes out at 4 am Dutch Summer Time. So they just dropped it. I'm doing the best I can under very onerous circumstances, believe me.

(Roger Reini, TX) Dutch announcers can get as excited as Latins--it just takes Holland participating in a World Cup final to get them going. Radio Nederland Bonaire was relaying the World Cup final from 1927 tune in to 2010 tune out, on 17810, and presumably 21640. Best place to hear it, if one understands Dutch.

N I G E R I A (Todd Thompson, CA) The Voice of Nigeria has great West African music and a good news service from 0600 daily. You'll know them bytheir distinctive IS: bells and then drums starting at 0545. VON is a good news source from "Black Africa" and generally runs a good overall broadcast, tho Ham interference and fading usually spoil reception from 0630 on. You can hear them on 11770 and 7255. The latter is best here on the west coast.

N O R W A Y (Bruce Boomer, Europe) Radio Norway's broadcasts are obviously aimed at the massive Norwegian merchant fleet, diplomats, and Norwegians abroad. The lonely little half hour of English is rather valuable to them though--mainly to generate reception reports. Yes, R. Norway wants large numbers of reports from DXers to see how their signal is doing. You see, sailors aren't too fond of writing letters (except for request programs and the like) so English-speaking DXers provide a useful service. Some monitoring organizations supply information but listeners are best. SW from Norway is in a very secure situation. The need to keep instant contact with Norwegians the world over is recognized so budget problems don't exist. A staff of 14 put out the programs around the clock with emphasis on up-to-date news. All of the SW staff also work on the English program with a regular rotation of editor for the program. The staff is free of any intervention on their program content or news and relies on its journalistic obligations to do a good job. R. Norway is interested in listeners' comments on programs and does have a group of reliable listeners who tune in and write to the station each

week, much to the dismay of the station staff. Here is a station that really wants reception reports and comments. Currently R. Norway uses a 500 kW transmitter (which is listed as 250 kW) which for test purposes is cranked up to various different powers. Unannounced, they change power to see the effects. This transmitter will eventually be moved to the west coast of Norway where two new shortwave transmitting sites using 500 kW transmitters are already under construction. One of these sites will also have a megawatt MW station. Tromsø SW was ended as a new megawatt MW station there will provide a better substitute, they say. With this new equipment, there are no plans to change the programming.

P A P U A N E W G U I N E A (Syd Osterman, Ont.) Apparently the PNG government is considering the introduction of TV--for educational use only. The Prime Minister said that they hope to "learn progress from TV"! Another PNG problem is the rising VD rate--I suppose you could say that PNG is going to POT! In a more serious vein, I caught a Toronto TV documentary on PNG--it featured many natives, in little more than paint and feathers. Implied that cannibalism was still practiced. Stressed the primitive society, and ended with closeups of the Mud-Men, of whisky ad fame! I am trying to reconcile this viewpoint with such as the radio ad for the Polaroid 1000 Land camera--on sale in camera shops throughout PNG! The Yamaha motor bikes, Amana air conditioners, shampoo to keep children free from 'unhealthy lice', the Liquid Bleach to remove 'mildew stains'. All point to the start of a consumer-oriented society, and the realization that 'eating people is wrong'. I feel that perhaps the TV program was more staged fiction, than documentary fact. Listen to Solomons and PNG, and hear the changes wrought by our, so called, civilization! I have omitted the music, the horrible assortment of pop, rock, CW, etc., that must be endured in order to log the meat of the programs. That is another story. Come to think of it, something called DX-Jukebox (RN, I think) is also a test of endurance, HI !

P H I L I P P I N E S (Victor Goonetilleke, Sri Lanka) R. Veritas every Thursday in the 1400-1500 English program on 9590, 11955 and 15165, has a 15-min feature called "The Music of Asia". An excellent program for the DXer to know different types of Asian music. Has a well-prepared talk on the music of the country and also musical items--a different country each week. Well-written and compiled.

(Larry Ledlow, TX) Running the risk of opening a can of worms (but don't we all everytime we complain?), I've got one helluva beef with the Far East Broadcasting Company. I just got their March 1978 issue of Signal. In it is a brief blurb about a little crippled girl named Aida. They evidently introduced her in the Christmas letter they send out asking for contributions. In this article, they talk about how Aida is being sent around to meet with various people testifying about her faith in Jesus. That's all very well and good, for I've nothing against Christianity. But what really makes me sick is this clear-cut case of exploiting someone's hard-earned accomplishments so that someone else makes the money. For example, the article states that "The Lord is using Aida to reach people of various age groups and lifestyles."

BULLSHIT. It's the FEBC acting in God's name (which I'm not sure they have any right to do anyway) "using" Aida to reach people so they will support FEBC's activities. They use her as an exhibition like an animal in a zoo. Another example: "...Aida was effectively used by God to challenge many businessmen to give their utmost to the Lord. Many of them milled around her as she wrote Bible verses and drew with her foot. They could not contain their tears as they watched a live demonstration of God's grace." If Aida accepted Christianity and let it help her have faith and optimism with so many handicaps, GREAT! But what she did in overcoming those handicaps was the result of lots and lots of work for which she should be applauded. But they're taking away the credit from her. God, perhaps, provided the motivation for her accomplishments, but she's the one that did the work. And then these Christian Witch Doctors have the gall to put this girl on exhibit reaping profits to make a dent in their monthly operating cost of $66,500. This is really a case of child exploitation with a handicapped person, and it makes me want to vomit.

I just get mad and carried away.... Well, with that off my chest, I feel a lot better.

S O C I E T Y I S L A N D S (Todd Thompson, CA) Radio Tahiti (France Regions 3) has good reception and plays excellent Pacific/Tahitian music along with classy French jazz. It's one of my favorite music stations and is a must for West Coast SWLs. Listening to this station makes you feel as if you're sitting beneath a coconut tree on a picturesque Tahitian beach. They can be heard in Tahitian and French, evenings from approx. 0300 till 0730 when they normally sign off. They are on earlier in the day, from 1600, including a brief English newscast at 1900, but I have had little luck in hearing them before the evening hours.

(Pete Grenier, CA) I have to agree with Ms. Lévesque in RIB 16, re R. Tahiti. They also play a lot of country music. In fact, I have noticed that R. Australia also plays much C&W music. But RA plays C&W by Australian artists. Also, R. Singapore plays country western music. So for you 'good old boys and girls', listen to these stations and you will hear the best in C&W music on shortwave. Yes, R. Tahiti comes in like a local in California, not only on 15170 but also on 11825 and 6135.

S O L O M O N I S L A N D S I've been hearing SIBC on 9545 at 0700-0745 when VOA covers the frequency, mentioning their July 7 Independence celebrations. I understand that Honiara is a sleepy backwater, so I wonder why this area has so many radio time-checks. For the motorist, homeward bound in a traffic jam? For the housewife waiting with dinner? I suspect that it is really the adoption of the universal DJ style and not an indication of furious hustle and bustle in downtown Honiara! (Syd Osterman, Ont.)

S R I L A N K A (Victor Goonetilleke, Sri Lanka) SLBC has a nice program that we DXers like a local station to have. They have a daily 15 minute program called "World News Roundup" on which they put on bits from other stations recorded off the air. Only BBC, R. Australia, VOA. It's something like BBC's Listening Post. Hopefully this will encourage listeners to go after it first hand on their SW sets!

S W E D E N (Kim Loughran, R. Sweden) Wow! Fame at last! Cover-boy at age 34! I thought it would never happen. Now I know I am just a pretty face. Roger Symes of England wrote in issue 15 that the Radio Sweden Saturday Show should be axed as it was about as satirical as a custard pie and that Roger Wallis and I should realise our limitations as writers and actors. Well, Mr. Symes, our lawyer will be calling on you just as soon as he gets out of jail, but in the meantime, suffice it to say that our show is not nearly as bad as you make out; we are, however, trying our best. One bright Satireday Night it will be really bad! Wish us luck.

(George Wood, R. Sweden) Sweden Calling DXers will continue our policy of including pirate information only if it would be of interest to most of our audience. We will also no longer be publicising popularity polls, unless they are surveys similar to that conducted by Kim Andrew Elliott. I've also begun the "Tune-In" section. Listeners are invited to write in describing stations and programs they enjoy (in English). If someone can come up with a good quality tape of a program they like, they can by all means send it along. Since we really haven't had any "Tune-In" contributions yet, I'll be using the "Programme Listener" column of "Short Wave News" and comments from RIB for the first few weeks (and probably regularly in the future).

I'd like to once again point out that I'll be hosting a special series of summer DX programs on Thursdays, now titled "Short Wave Panorama--Radio in Sweden." The programs will mostly concern various aspects of radio and DXing in Sweden. In July they'll be a mini-series of four programs on local radio in Britain, Italy, the US, and Sweden. Thursdays in June, July and August.

gh: When you run out of hard-to-understand people to interview, why not convert this slot into a weekly "Tune-In" program, and leave the DX news to Tuesdays? By the way, after a much-publicized "Nordic Broadcasters' Cooperation Agreement" a couple of years ago in which Radio Finland and Radio Sweden shifted English program times in order to avoid conflict, we again find the two competing at 2300 GMT--and worse, both with "DX" programs on Thursdays. At least, Finland is supposed to have one then--I've yet to hear it. They should switch to 2330 for English. Hardly any other SWBC station has English at this time to NAm, among brief transmissions.

U K O G B A N I

SUMMER LISTENING ON THE BBC - Roger N. Peterson, CT.

July: Feature Programs - The Economics of Publishing includes talks by some leading London publishers. 22nd 1130 rep 23rd 1830,24th 2330. Sport in Literature examines noted authors from Hemingway to Bernard Shaw in writing about this subject. Sats 0230 rep Suns 1130, Mons 1030, Weds 2030, Thurs 1615. Writers Across Frontiers tells about an international organization for authors called P.E.N. 15th 1130 rep 16th 1830, 17th 2330. Coffee - Grounds For Complaint? features Reg Kennedy, on leave from World Radio Club, interviewing coffee growers in Brazil and Kenya. 29th 1130 rep 30th 1830, 31st 2330. Second Hearing are repeats of previous popular shows. On Tuesdays 1030 rep Thurs 0030. On the 11th is the story of a 2,000 year old English village. On the 18th is Healing by Art and Music and on the 25th is the Cryes of London - a historical account of London's music. The State of the Unions looks at the present-day role of the trade unions in Britain and some other industrialized nations. Weds 1430 rep Thurs 0330,Fris 2030.

Sport - July is a big month in Britain for sports of all kinds. The British Open Golf tournament starts the 15th. It's being played this year at historic St. Andrews in Scotland - where it all began. The various Cricket test matches will be held throughout the month and there is a full card of horse racing from Ascot, Newcastle,etc. Hear all of this on the BBC Saturday Special 1330-1500, 1515-1600,1615-1745. Also on Sportscall on Suns 1745 rep 2245. Sports Round-up is heard daily (ex Sun) 1245,1745,2245. Sports Review is on Suns 0230 rep 0945.

Music - Promenade Concerts from London's Albert Hall can be heard live on the 21st at 1830, 22nd at 1830, 28th at 1830 and on the 29th and 31st, both at 1830. Command Performance is a new series of light classical music. Sats 0830 rep 2030(ex 22nd,29th) Mons 0330, Weds.1030. People And Folk continues on Suns 0530 rep Tues 0215, Thurs 1115. Joke and Dagger also continues on Mons 2100 rep Tues 0815, Fris 0430. The Songwriters looks at the life and work of some of the greats of the music world, such as Alan J. Lerner, Harold Arlen and others. On Mons 0100 rep 0945. Tues 1330.

Drama - A new serial starts this month based on a mystery story by Dorothy Sayers. It's called Five Red Herrings and features the popular detective, Lord Peter Wimsey. Starts Mon the 24th 1130 rep Tues 1615 and Fris 2330. Joyce Grenfell Requests the Pleasure is a new show that will probably be one of the best you can hear ! Joyce Grenfell was a favorite with the troops during Worl War II as a singer, actress and comedienne. Take it from me, she knows how to entertain ! Don't miss it. Sats 0430 rep Suns 1645, Tues 0145, Thurs 0745. The Glums will continue this month. Suns 0730, 1900 rep Tues 1115. Wed 0145. David Copperfield continues Sats 0945 rep Mons 0230, 1345. Play of the Week can be heard on Sats at 1830 rep Suns 0030,1130. Radio Theatre is on Suns 1915 rep Fri 0030 and Short Story on Sats 1930, Suns 1330 rep Mons 0145, Fris 0815.

Specials- Frank Muir Goes into is all about humor and wit from the Arts. Features such famous people as Peter Sellers, Marty Feldman and others. Starts the 16th Suns 1430 rep Tues 0330, Thurs 1030

Craftsmen is a new series that examine the skills that no machine can replace. The first is a blacksmith. This series continues thru the Summer. Suns 0745 rep Mons 1715, Tues 2315.

August - Features : The British at Work is a look at various occupations such as fishermen, miners, teachers, etc. Sats 1130 rep Suns 1830, Mons 2330. International Big Business examines the multinational corporations. Aug 2nd, 1430 rep 3rd 0330, 4th 2030. The World Bank examines this international institution. 16th 1430 rep 17th 0330, 18th 2030. The Secret War is a repeat of last year's BBC series. All about World War II scientists, researchers and spies. A great series. Don't miss it. Tues 1030 rep Weds 1715, Thurs 0030. Are Big Cities Governable? is a look at the problems facing New York. 30th 1430 rep 31st 0330. The Long Haul looks at the long-distance lorry drivers who make the 5,000 mile trip from England to the Middle East. 23rd 1430 rep 24th 0330, 25th 2030. Health - The Rabies Threat - 9th 1430 rep 10th 0330 11th 2030. Europa Special brings BBC "stringers" in for interviews on their part in gathering the news. Sats 0815 rep Suns 0215,2015.

Drama - Play of the Week on Sats rep Suns. Noel Coward's Post Mortem on 5th 1830 rep 6th 0030, 1130. Joyce Grenfell Requests the Pleasure continues Sats 0430, Suns 0130,1645, Tues 0145, Thurs 0745. Frank Muir Goes Into continues Suns 1430, Tues 0330, Thurs 1030. The Five Red Herrings and David Copperfield both continue. See July listings for correct time. Becket,a drama of the famed ancient English Churchman, can be heard on the 19th at 0030, 1130. A new series of stories by Susan Hill can be heard on Sats 0230, Mons1030, Weds 2030, Thurs 1615.

Music - The Songwriters has Andre Previn introducing some of the best known of this trade - Ray Noble, Ira Gershwin and others. Mons 0100, rep 0945, Tues 1330. The Spinners, the most popular English folk singers are on Sats 2115 rep Suns 0730, Thurs 0430. Promenade Concerts continue on 1st 1830, 7th 1830, 12th 1830, 16th 1830, 19th 1830 22nd 1830,24th 1830 26th 0030 rep 27th 1515,26th 1830, 27th 0130 rep 1230 and 28th 1830. People and Folk on Suns 0530 rep Tues 0215, Thurs 1115. Russian Piano Music Suns 0130 rep 1230 Mons 1830.

Sports - The Saturday Special (See July listings for times) will bring you the British Commonwealth Games, Cricket matches with New Zealand and Golf, Tennis and Football.

(Larry Ledlow, Jr., TX) As for radio drama, hurrah for the BBC. They had a great series on their 30 minute theatre entitled The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. The Sackville relay really helped out, because I was laughing so hard I couldn't have found the volume knob on my FRG-7.

gh: I normally disdain serials, since missing one episode can ruin the whole thing--but I went to extraordinary lengths to hear every HHGTTG, and am glad I did!

(Lisa McGaw, NY) Does anyone listen to The Farming World (BBC, Tues 1830, Wed 1130, Thur 0830 GMT)? I tuned in by accident one time (never thought of myself as the farming type) and found it exceedingly informative and pertinent to today's world food crisis. I now listen as often as time and reception conditions permit.

gh: Your experience mirrors my own. A program of much broader interest than you expect.

(Alok Das Gupta, India) Look at the May or June issue of London Calling. Now the cricket season is on so we listeners in this part of the world would miss several programmes at 1215 and 1709 GMT. At 1215, we can't keep track of "Top Twenty" each week, we'll miss a

few 30 minutes of "Just A Minute", we could not hear our requests in "Jazz for the Asking", we have to skip some prgresses of British rock scene from "John Peel", we can't talk on "Talking About Music" on Thurs, Fris, Sats, Mons & Tues respectively. And at 1709 hours also John Peel, Music Now (but these are available in Europe only!!) Listeners are forced to listen to the cricket during this and every season for the last few years. A few years back during the cricket season, "Top Twenty" shifted to 1130 from 1215. I'm not against the cricket fans, but what should I like to tell that for the cricket fans only one frequency for West Indies (6195 from Caribbean relay) and for the Indian subcontinent and Australasia 9740 from Tebrau will do the needful. So that on other frequencies World Service mainstream could be broadcast and thus will get a better choice to hear any programme. This problems we've to face each year. Because at other times and on other days those programmes are broadcast (which we can't hear at 1215 or 1709 hours) and after one week or 3/4 weeks we've skipped some programmes and could not follow what has happened to the past week's. At these times most of the programmes are preshipped so no problem of playing those items from the relay centres.

What's New: Due to extension of Saturday Special we are missing this program at 1715 on Saturdays and from May it is scheduled for Sats 0630, Mons 0830, Fris 0330 and all the 3 times BBC does not broadcast to the Asian continent including the Indian subcontinent. It seems listeners in North America, Australia and Middle East and Africa are interested in this programme and Asian listeners are not. Immediately (at least from September) What's New should be aired at a suitable timing, say 1215 or later at night before 1745 to suit the needs of the listeners residing in this part of the world. And it seems Sarah Ward is exclusively appointed for African listeners in several programmes. Please make a note, Mr. Alan Jones and Mr. Ian Gillham of the BBC planning and production department of the above.

gh: I certainly agree that BBC has disrupted its schedule too heavily this summer with sporting preëmptions. As far as I'm concerned they should dump almost all the sport and almost all the pop music, anyway. But is it really that hard to get off-beam BBC transmissions in India? For just about everything that was pre-empted, I was able to find it at an alternate time.

U S A (VOA press release, Apr. 12, via American Embassy, Wellington, via NZ DX Times). VOA on Saturday, May 13, begins a new weekly programme worldwide in English. "Weekend" represents a substantial departure from much of VOA's previous programming. Perhaps the most noticeable difference from its predecessors will not be what, but how. News and cultural events will be covered, but with some differences. To supplement straight reports on substantive matters from correspondents, VOA plans to have some 'live' conversations between the reporters and its Washington host to provide local colour and a sense of immediacy. The programme will be timely, fast-paced and informal, with an emphasis on what is happening around the world and how it affects people. For instance, if Pres. Carter is overseas, VOA might add to its regular news coverage a conversation with a member of the President's party on some 'human aspect' of the trip that is usually not called for in traditional coverage. VOA also plans to have music that's being heard that weekend--theNumber One song on the charts may be juxtaposed with a report on a Metropolitan Opera première, or a visit to the Grand Old Opry in Nashville. Answers to listeners' questions and reviews of books and films will be interspersed with background and expansion pieces on topics in the news. Five minutes of news (exclusive of correspondent reports) will be broadcast shortly after the programme begins. Midway through the hour there will be a sports report as well as a news summary. "Weekend" will bring a new sound to the VOA English programming, a new approach to fulfilling its new International Communication Agency charter responsibilities. It is designed to be as listenable as possible while at the same time increasing VOA's coverage of important events. The programme will be heard in East Asia and the Pacific at 1300 GMT.

(Jeff White, IL) Re the comments about VOA in June RIB, VOA did not 'dump' the excellent new program "This Week" from its Latin American Service lineup; it was merely moved back an hour to 0010 GMT. The program is also broadcast at 1110, 1510 and 1910 Sats (0010 is GMT Sunday). "New York, New York" was removed from the Latin American transmission, but it can still be heard Sats at 1430, 1730 and 1830. The two programs which were dumped as a result of VOA's recent programming changes were "Show Music USA" and "Letters from Listeners." However, let-

ters from listeners are now being answered Mon, Wed, Fri on the "VOA Magazine Show," as well as during various other programs. The music programs were shifted around a little. "Music USA (Standards)" is now on Sun & Mon; "Now Music USA" is on Tue, Wed, Thu; and "Country Music USA" is now on Fri. "VOA Jazz Hour" is not on Suns, as reported in June RIB, but on Mon-Sat at 1215 1615 and 2015 GMT and during the African Service on Sats only at 2215. As for VOA's new "Weekend" program, I like it. I like the variety that it offers. I think you have to look at it from the standpoint of the overseas listeners for whom it is intended. VOA is not just supposed to provide entertainment; it is also supposed to tell about all of the various aspects of America. Lyndan Farmer, the host of "Weekend," also hosts the excellent "Concert Hall" classical music program Sundays at 1215, 1615, 2015 and 2215 GMT.

gh: Other times for "Weekend" are Sats 1700-1800 and 2100-2200. "Studio One" (is this nothing but reruns?) is now scheduled Suns at 1330, 1730, 2130, Mons 0130. An excellent VOA series which receives little attention, is "Forum", now scheduled Fris 1130, 1730, 1830, Sats 0130. They have had some extremely interesting lecture series in the past, though recently have gotten away from that approach. This program ought to be made available for domestic broadcast on NPR, but of course it is illegal for any VOA program to be broadcast domestically--unless it came to the VOA from a domestic source in the first place. "Scholarly talks and interviews on the arts, sciences and professions." When it was on Saturdays I was a regular listener, but catching it on Fridays is a problem.

(Chris Hambly, Victoria) I am an avid AFRTS fan; I listen daily between 0600 and 0900 on 15330 and 0900-1030 on 11805. This transmission now goes through to 1400. (At 1030 GMT I switch over to CBC Northern Service on 9625, which you might be surprised, gives local-like signals here in Australia). I would be interested to know about AFRTS--where the studios are, how much time delay are the newscasts before we hear them.

gh: Studios are in an obscure office building on a dead-end in Arlington, VA. I believe it was the Pomponio building, or some such; I visited it a couple years ago. Except during the middle of our night when you listen, AP news on the hour is live (actually 7-second delay), and the following three network newscasts are all delayed from on the hour. News at :30 is normally live; Louis indicates some of the longer-than-5 minute newscasts are delayed as much as half an hour. AFRTS has finally put out its new program schedule, in a different format, but you still need a magnifying glass to read it. I still have some back issues of April RIB, containing our monitored AFRTS schedule, if anyone needs one: 75¢ or 5 IRCs.

(Louis Goldstein, MA) Also got May 1978 Program Schedule from AFRTS and corrected freq sked. Only change concerns Dixon CA transmitters. 11835 out, 11805 in. Opens up at 0600 UTC instead of listed 0900.

(George Wood, Sweden) While visiting California in April, I got to sit in on two New Direction Roundtables while staying with a friend in Berkeley. It was just incredible to spend three or four hours talking with ten or fifteen hams up and down the West Coast, about things like wind energy, Mother Earth News (and even Radio Sweden and short wave listening). And they do it three days a week!!!! (Tue-Thu-Sun, starting around 2100 PDST, 3898 kHz). It was really a downer to arrive back in Sweden and switch on my ham rig to listen to the same old meaningless chatter.

U S S R (Miss Lisa McGaw, NY) Thanks for the profile of Paul Kuznetsov (whom I've heard on RM) in June RIB. That kind of information adds a welcome dimension to SW Listening. I can't say the same for some of the emotional editorializing in the same issue.

(Richard Stoller, NY) R. Moscow's DX program is just out of this world. Kuznetsov flunks not only DXing, but Geography, too! R. Grenada in Spain? Jeesh! Listen to this one: On 5/27, a perfectly serious Kuznetsov said that Damascus has Spanish to South America at 0030 GMT...on 782 MW! This guy deserves a prize of some sort, don't you think?

(Charley Hoffman, PA) Why, oh why can't Radio Moscow and the Soviet people forget about World War II or at least present factual material. It's been over 33 years since the last shot was fired, but still once or twice a week listeners to the North American Service have to endure a

long winded talk on an anniversary celebration of the great Soviet Army victory over Nazi treachery. They then proceed to blame WW II on the German Federal Republic, and of course no mention is made of the German Democratic Republic, since today they are commie friends. If you like listening to slanderous one-sided slop, tune in; you'll love it. Better have a barf bucket handy; you'll need it.

U. S. S. R. (Tom Gavaras 16920 17th Avenue North, Wayzata, MN 55391) The following question was answered on Radio Moscow's Moscow Mailbag by Joe Adimov:

QUESTION: How do residents handle the problem of noisy neighbors in the U.S.S.R.?

ANSWER: Ha! I am having a little trouble myself. There is a law passed by the Moscow City Soviet (which is the city council) which says "after 11 pm, you can't have any form of music, record player or television played loudly." The law also says that you are not allowed to put any loud speakers on your window sill with the windows open. Other than that, if the windows are shut and it is before 11 o'clock in the evening, you can make all the noise you want in the apartment. But I live in a condominium and there is a general meeting of all the residents. Anything they pass along is like a ruling, which says that any loud music at any time of the day or night should not be played so it could be heard by your neighbors. But some people violate this rule and I've come up to these people with a sad look on my face and said "Look fellows, you want me to go down on my knees, please turn your music down. We hear it every evening." They are good people and we don't hear their music that loud anymore. But there is one family that really insists on playing their television set so loud that I hear almost every word. I gave them a slice of their own cake. I switched my set on at the maximum volume and I put my tape recorder on simultaneously. That is the way I got back at them. Now they have been keeping it quiet.

(Jim Weber, PA) I just have a question about The Soviet North American Service; is thirteen different frequencies really enough? I mean, there are many sections of the RF spectrum where I cannot hear them. This deplorable situation should be taken care of at once.

(Larry Ledlow, TX) Did anybody grab the Radio Moscow coverage of the affair in Red Square? I did. Too bad it was only in Russian. Those boys were having a real fun time from about 0700 til 0900. Heck, there must've been upwards of 50 frequencies in use since they used their domestic service and Program 5 outlets on SW. I wonder if they're still hung over from all that celebrating. Some of their English announcers on 2 May were a little slow and soft spoken (hi).

Forum On Other Topics

E D X C R E P O R T (George Wood, Radio Sweden) The EDXC meeting at Mölndal, Sweden in mid-May was really fine--a great opportunity to meet the listeners, and especially to meet fellow broadcasters. In fact, that's the main problem now; the broadcasters come enthusiastically to such meetings, having talked their stations into paying for them. The listeners don't have recourse to expense accounts, and are thus outnumbered. We tended to dominate things a bit much, in our excitement to be there and take the opportunity to discuss issues of importance to us. What was a very pleasant surprise was the total acceptance (at least expressed) of the importance of programming content, rather than station hunting. No one disputed that this was the direction the hobby is moving in. There were continual comments about the value of RIB, especially from the broadcasters.

Another topic much discussed was QSLs. Most of the broadcasters discovered we all have common problems dealing with the piles of incoming cards. Various solutions were offered, ranging from SBC's suggestion that listeners send in IRCs to Radio Nederland's call for clubs to educate their members thru the magazines in not asking for so many cards for each station. The most interesting idea was Radio Canada International's, and we all listened very closely to Ian McFarland as he described the station's experiences in that direction. Arne and I returned to Stockholm very interested in the RCI system, and Radio Sweden is seriously considering going

that way when our next batch of QSLs run out. It's certainly better for the listener than the DW or usual BBC approach, and will make work much easier for us. Our letter answerers can spend more time on personal responses when they don't have to deal with as many QSL requests.

The meeting also discussed popularity polls. Everyone agreed they are basically useless, and the broadcasters agreed that Kim Andrew Elliott's NASWA survey is a much more important tool. Plans are afoot to run a similar survey in England, hopefully to be followed by a European survey.

One of the most controversial issues discussed was the reporting and including in DX magazines and programs of pirate stations. This links up with David Crawford's remarks in March RIB, and I'd like to talk about that, since there's a lot of ill-feeling floating around now apparently caused by remarks I made following a misunderstanding.

When I took over SCDX, I used pirate information in the program. Since Arne had had a policy of not including such information, this brought on immediate responses from both the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary General of the EDXC, asking me to not include such information. Being green in the job, I didn't realize that these were personal comments and mentioned in the program and in RIB that the EDXC was calling on me to censor my program, or words to that effect. And that led to David's remark, which both hurt Rudolf, and has also had some unfortunate repercussions--I have heard--for David.

Well--I know better now. The way the EDXC is organized, it could never make such a policy statement. Rudolf has had a problem of identifying himself too closely with the EDXC and with the Hobby, but I did confuse personal opinions with EDXC policy.

Besides, none of this matters anymore. The reason Rudolf was against the inclusion of pirate information had nothing to do with his own beliefs; it rather had to do with the growing repression in West Germany. In the Federal Republic it is illegal to listen to pirate stations (it's also illegal to listen to any utility stations). I think Rudolf has had a genuine fear of what the West German government would do to the SWL hobby, and he let that fear shape his position. For example, he pointed out that if we include pirate info inSCDX and it is reprinted in the yellow printed SCDX sheets, those sheets are illegal as soon as they enter the West German postal system.

At the EDXC meeting Rudolf had long talks with several of us. I pointed out that living in Sweden, I couldn't care less what kind of repression is going on in Germany. Bob Zanotti also outlined SBC's policy, that anything on the air ought to be reportable.

By the end of the conference, Rudolf had completely reversed himself, allowing his personal opinions to stand and forgetting about the German situation. The EDXC doesn't support pirate stations, but clubs are encouraged to follow their own course, in conformance with their own national laws.

It being my first EDXC meeting, and being more interested in observing, I didn't press the issue of Women in SWLing at the meeting. The final day I did bring up the issue enough to ensure that it will be on the agenda for next year's meeting in Vienna. So SCDX will definitely be a forum to discuss the issue, and I'd especially like women (or men, for that matter) to send along any taped comments on the question. Short comments, like 2 minutes maximum on why women aren't more involved in SWLing, or how to break the male-dominance of the hobby.

(Jan Memmert, West Germany) This is to react on David Crawford's article: "EDXC, Drop Dead!". It is not only the style of this letter with which the author shows to be unqualified at all. One can hardly talk about f a c t s Mr. Crawford is writing about, either. As far as I know, there has never been any official EDXC request on SCDX's broadcast. You will see in SCDX bulletin No. 1454 that the author does not seem to be able to read what is printed. The conclusions he draws from that are therefore obnoxious. As for anothr so-called 'fact', the EDXC should offer a fixed amount to every reader of RIB that can provide the EDXC with any official EDXC statement concerning a banning of RSA up to now. They should make this offer in order to show that nothing ever has been said. Mr. Crawford, stick to facts instead of dirtying the successful work of a not only democratic, but also liberal organization, which is recommended and recognized by several international broadcasters! As far as the last sentence of the article is concerned, it seems to be better to cut relations between RIB and David Crawford, as he is becoming a burden to the DX hobby in general.

(David Crawford, FL) All Florida DXers and SWLs are invited to an organizational meeting, Sat. July 22, at 1300 EDT in the Orlando Public Library. For more information, contact me at Box 513, Oak Hill, 32759.

(Dario Monferini, Italy) I don't think it was a good comment, cause it was only a destructive one. However all this make the goal to show how much are written without care many bulletins and at the first step I put Sweden Calling DXers, were often are printed sally news of any value, for exemple a new television in Guam Isle....

(Bruce Boomer, WV) EDXC-78. What's an EDXC meeting like? Picture about 70 people, almost half representing broadcasting organizations and the rest DXers, spending a very long weekend to talk about radio. Also imagine that everyone was treated as an equal--no snobbery or elite groups. Discussions (and arguments) were held, but never were the topics important enough to cause any bad feelings in the assembled group of people. That was essentially the atmosphere.

Of course, an EDXC meeting should cover a certain amount of business matters but the most integral part was the informal talks between the individuals and the good it brings to the hobby. As an American, I was thrilled to meet the people behind the microphones, see those pictures in the WRTH come to life, and hear about DXing and radio in Europe.

The biggest difference from an ANARC meeting was of course the large number of broadcasters, some of which were disappointed that so few DXers were in attendance. It was an excellent opportunity for the broadcaster and DXer to find out about each other and what improvements can be made.

Of the various discussions on the agenda, some topics were hard to issue an official policy (due to varying legal situations in the countries represented). One topic mentioned has a direct relation to DXing in the USA, and that is QSL policy. It was generally agreed that repeat QSLing is quite a problem with many stations and that listeners should not constantly request more QSLs from the same station, or else all QSLs may be dropped. It was discussed that clubs should discourage QSLs (after the first one) and also the stations should discourage repeat reports, if it doesn't want them (for example, RCI's QSL policy cut down drastically the number of QSL requests). Also discussed of course was the stations' desire for more response from listeners on program content.

Again, the best part of the weekend was just hearing the old stories, watching the scramble of microphones & interviews, and drinking some terribly overpriced Swedish beer.

(EDXC Newsletter) The Swedish DX Federation "RDXA" invited...and 70 participants from 15 nations and 5 continents came to Mölndal, a suburb of Göteborg. Among these participants we could welcome 30 guests representing 15 international broadcasting-stations (among them not only the 'big' like DW, but also TRT-Voice of Turkey, FEBA Seychelles or even from Canada RCI).

In his annual report, EDXC Secretary General Rudolf Heim (who was elected for the 5th time) pointed out that the last EDXC-year was not so much a year of innovations, but of a successful continuation of the policy. At the time being 40 organizations are represented either as full-member or observer in the council. The conference discussions stressed the policy of the EDXC in its SWL promotion, beside the traditional DXing.

Another topic of discussion was the "World Administrative Radio Conference" taking place next year in Geneva. The EDXC Secretary General pointed out that the DXers would unfortunately have absolutely no possibility to influence it. However it would be the task of the clubs to inform the individual DXers via the magazines what the results of WARC could be and what kind of influence those results could have for the DXer and SWL.

It was pointed out that an internal 'management-reform' would be necessary to fulfill all the different expectations individual DXers, clubs or even radio-stations have. At the moment, the day-to-day work is preventing the EDXC from doing that kind of work the Council was founded for. Other highlights of the conference were a reception by the city of Mölndal, a lecture by researchers of Gothenburg University on international broadcasting and propaganda, and of course the traditional EDXC-banquet. During this, Arne Skoog received the EDXC-Award for his outstanding promotion of DXing and SWLing during more than 30 years.

The 1979 meeting will take place June 1-4, 1979 in the Austrian capital Vienna, with ADXB-OE as our hosts.

A N A R C Contrary to comments printed in May RIB, I can assure you that ANARC is not "nothing more than a convention brokerage house," and I can assure you that it is a uniting force for DX clubs. I'm a member of ANARC's Public Relations Committee and I see what ANARC does on a daily basis. First of all, ANARC's main function is to serve as a uniting body for all of the DX clubs in North America. In case anyone is unaware of it, every SW, MW, LW, TV, FM DX club of any significance in North America belongs to ANARC, and ANARC is the only organization that unites them all. ANARC is democratically-organized, whereby each member club votes on items of ANARC business. Sure, the annual ANARC Convention is one of our major activities, and anyone who has ever been to one will tell you what a great event it is. But there's much more to ANARC. ANARC publicizes all of its member clubs. ANARC receives literally hundreds of letters every year requesting information on its member clubs. The Frequency Recommendation Committee assists SW broadcasters in finding good clear frequencies for their broadcasts to North America. ANARC has an FCC and WARC representative. The International Broadcasters Year Committee (which Ian McFarland and myself are co-chairmen of) is cooperating with the Voice of America, which has just recently begun to refer VOA listeners to ANARC for information about radio clubs in North America. These are just a few of the things that ANARC is doing. So anyone who says that ANARC is "nothing more than a convention brokerage house" is obviously unaware of the facts of the matter. And I should add that no one who works for ANARC gets paid. It's an all-volunteer organization working for the benefit of DX clubs and the DXing community as a whole. (Jeff White, IL)

E X T R A O R D I N A R Y D X I N G (Gene Martin, CO, Apr. 29 IRCA DX Monitor) I have solved the mystery of the weird unID LA on 665.3. This station has been Radio Machaca which announced itself as Piura, Peru, although it was actually transmitting from Tumbes, Ecuador!! Truth is it was an outlaw station set-up by anti-government forces in both countries, and its misleading ID kept the authorities off its neck. The Ecuadorians classified it as a Peruvian problem and the Peruvians never succeeded in finding it. The technical details are even more interesting. It is a 50-watt station operating off a 19-volt electric eel kept in a muddy pond in the hills just outside Tumbes. Its remarkable variations in signal strength seem to be connected with the coming and going of the eel's rutting seasons. The signal peaks when the season is at its height, which comes about the 5th and 20th of each month. A major step-up in power is likely to show up anytime for the station operators are scouring the countryside for a high-voltage eel to replace the ailing specimen now in use. The station antenna runs up the trunk of a 70 ft date palm and if anybody asks any questions about the wire, they are informed it protects the tree against lightning. This clandestine station is disguised so cleverly, it will probably operate for years without ever being discovered, so long as the Monitor does not circulate among the government minions in either of these two countries. Have a lot of it on tape. 73.

C O M M E R C I A L V S. N O N - C O M M E R C I A L (Steve Kennedy, FL) It has been stated over and over again that the airwaves are public property, to be used to entertain, inform and educate the public, and to be used in the public's interest, convenience or necessity. TV is no longer being operated in PICON./one of my professors preferred the acronym PICNIC -gh/ Now the main interest is to make a buck! I feel that it is asinine to sell radio or TV time which is in reality public property! Personally, I would rather see a BBC type of system set up here in the US, than to put up with commercial programming which lowers us all to the LCD! I also feel that the FCC is a farce. The only decent stations on the air are educational stations, SWBC, and even the bootleg pirates. I have to admire someone who has guts to stand up to the FCC and put up a pirate station. If I had the money, I would do the same! Now, a religious pirate station--supporting Anita Bryant! Hi! God Bless,

(Brad Lovett, OH) It seems that a lot of people feel that all of our domestic broadcasting is trash and we should adopt the European system. I agree, much of our domestic broadcasting does leave a lot to be desired, but I'd much rather keep it in private hands than in the control of the government. I'm glad that we can still go 20 miles down the road and hear a different radio station, no matter how well or how poorly it sounds. It's still nice, that at any hour of the day or night I can find Top 40, MOR, C&W, Beautiful Music, News, or Talk formats without having to wait for "The Third Programme" to get around to what I want to hear. I work in radio and am satisfied withwhat we're doing. I still think, with all its problems, commercial broadcasting is better than "The Big Government's Second Programme presents Light Music".

(Pete Grenier, CA) Pardon me, but in RIB 15 you said that the use of the radio for private profit is disgusting. Surely, you have been working for a college radio station for too long. Profit is the name of the game; how many stations in the US, mediumwave, could afford to stay on the air, if it were not for profit. Would you rather have the federal government run all the radio stations in the US? Like in England and Sweden. In Sweden, radio listeners have to pay a tax, to be able to own a radio. According to George Wood, when he spoke at the SCADS meeting, he said that people in Sweden must pay a use tax, when they purchase a radio. Would you rather pay a tax to Uncle Sam? Not me. I'll listen to a commercial any day, than pay a tax.

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) What is so wrong about making a buck? You say using radio for private profit is disgusting. Is it indeed, Mr. Socialist? So how else are capitalists going to live without making money that buys them their necessities? Come ON, now. In a non-capitalist system you don't need money for most of your necessities, you need a good, strong, back. In a capitalist system, however, you NEED money. So how is is you've got something against making money?? I won't pardon your idealism, OM, because ANY idealism seldom makes practical sense, as you can see. You get paid just for moving your mouth, Ratchet Jaw, and I don't hear you complaining about your pay. You're actually supporting and 'working' for that which you attack. Waddya know!

(Jeff White, IL) Re Glenn's attack on commercial stations in May RIB, I would hate to think what this country would be like without commercial radio stations. I'm not attacking public radio (in fact, I work for a public radio station), but I'm sure glad we have commercial radio as an alternative. I too believe that, as you suggest, "the radio spectrum is a resource belonging to all people"; and that's why all people, including private persons and organizations, should be allowed to use it. The sky is also "a resource belonging to all people." Would you consider the use of it (as the airlines are doing) for private profit "disgusting" as well? I hope you're not about to tell us, Glenn, that you're a socialist.

gh: No, I'm an iconoclastic agnostic anarchist pacifist, but socialism appears to be the next best thing. You all seem to think it's an either-commercial or-government-controlled system. Actually, it is possible to be non-commercial and free from government control. No bureaucrat attempts to control my programming on WUOT, but almost all our income derives from tax funds. People are already paying (a minuscule fraction) of their taxes to support non-commercial radio. There just isn't enough of it yet, and much too much commercial radio wherein public service is only incidental to making a buck. Capitalists could easily find lots of other ways to make their bucks, without polluting our airwaves with their garbage. Now, some people want to extend US commercial radio to SW! That's the last thing we need. We do need some SWBC from the US other than religious fanatics or government line, however. And what we need is a NON-commercial "public" fine-arts type service to display the best that American radio has to offer.

(Gerry Bishop, PA) Considering the amount of money that would be needed to start a commercial SWBC station in this country, I am just a little opposed to the idea. I still think the intentions are good, but if somebody sinks a lot of money into something like this, it's a good bet that he or she is going to want a solid return on it. To get a big audience, the station will have to program what the audience wants. That is, unfortunately, probably going to include an awful lot of that damn pop music. It looks like just another vicious whirling cesspool.

If, though, somebody took up this project who wasn't so concerned with the outlay as with the content of the programs, the possibility for an excellent minor league broadcaster exists. Of these two, I suspect the first is more likely to occur, and I'll be spending more of my SW time on the tropical bands tuned into the Afro or Asian stations.

(Ken MacHarg, IN) I read in a Radio-TV textbook that the US government puts strict limits on the amount and type of commercials allowed on any SW transmissions from the US. Certainly that would discourage anyone interested in such a venture. I imagine it would not be cheap to start up and run such a station; thus any investors would need to anticipate a certain amount of income. So why does the US government restrict such ventures?

(Creede Lambard, Sa'udi Arabia) The only reason, say, Coca-Cola would consider buying ad time on a commercial station would be if the audience was there and the price was right. For instance, maybe the cost to Stridex for a spot during ABC news is 50¢ per 1000 potential listeners. (Maybe it's $10,000, I don't know). If this SW service has a potential audience of 1 million people, and you can offer commercial spots at 45¢ per thousand audience they might consider it. I get the impression that most of the ads our hypothetical station would get would be direct response outfits--the "send $5.95, $6.95 for tape, for 60 golden oldies" type.

P U B L I C I Z I N G S H O R T W A V E (Simon Hicks, England, WDXC) Many people don't seem to know what SW really is. The first thing people seem to think you are is a Radio Ham, if you tell them you are interested in SW. Tell them that you're interested in the broadcast bands, and you're thought of as having a rather strange hobby, as being some sort of degenerate radio amateur. Few people to whom I have spoken about my hobby would seem to accept SWBC listening and DXing as a full hobby in their own right. Radio amateurs themselves are some of the worst people for this--amateur radio is the pinnacle of our hobby. It's almost as if amateur radio is some sort of goal and that other branches of SWLing (MW & VHF too) are inferior to our branch of the hobby. Why should this be? To a certain extent it arises because many hams do get into amateur radio thru BC listening, which could be why the amateurs I have heard and spoken to consider that 'all things lead to amateur radio'. Though I welcome all the publicity in local and national media for all branches of the radio hobby, I think the amateur gets too much of the 'cake'. Still, I suppose ham radio is more glamourous to the public; it is after all, more exciting to say that I talked to, rather than heard, somebody in Australia. Every person in SW is good news, but amateur radio is not necessarily the best place for them. It is not the pinnacle of our hobby; it is not a shining star to which all paths lead.

(Harry L. Helms, SC) Publicizing SW is much ado about nothing. I am amused by the naive assumption that if somehow the word about SWLing can be brought before the public, as in radio PSAs or the Reader's Digest ad suggested by Ed Shaw, a stampede to join the hobby will result. Sheer publicity will not sell something the public does not want, e.g. the Edsel, or the Sex Pistols. I simply cannot imagine SWLing ever becoming anywhere as popular as CB. You're never going to see anything like the apocryphal "18 million" cited by Richard Wood or the "15-25 million" estimated by Todd Graves. The answers lies in the very nature of the SWL hobby. CB and ham radio provide interaction with other people and immediate feedback for participants. SWLs, on the other hand, lead largely a 'lone wolf' existence connected to each other thru various bulletins. SW radio lacks the potential to fit into the larger social contexts in which other electronic media prosper. Can you seriously imagine a group of people, say a family or some friends, sitting around and listening to Radio Moscow? Radio Peking? Or even Radio Nederland or the BBC??? Add in the QRM and vagaries of propagation which will discourage many listeners.

Who would be good candidates for SWLing? Academic types, either those seriously interested in international affairs or in a discipline that could make use of SWLing. Journalism/communication types are naturals, as are those in political science or international studies. Another possibility would be those engaged in international commerce. The recent influx of easier to use receivers, especially with digital readout, could greatly ease the entry of such persons into SWLing.

But present SWLing to the masses and the reaction will be a big 'so what?' It's impossible

to separate SWLing from the social environment of SWLs. Why indeed are there so few female DXers? So few blacks? Why is the percentage of unmarried adult males in SWLing so high compared to the population at large? Answer these types of questions and then you'll know how to promote SWLing and how many potential converts we have in the population as a whole. Don't expect to find such answers in a survey or poll. The reasons why we really engage in SWLing may be different from those we publicly admit to. It could be the real reasons are too complex or obscure for us to understand for ourselves, much less express to another person.

And let's cut out all the remarks re TV, CB, ham radio, etc. We have enough characters in SWLing to keep us occupied if we want to throw stones! Besides, what should we care about what goes on in CB if it doesn't directly affect us?

(Woody Seymour, NC) I share the concerns of some that a situation could arise comparable to what happened in Japan--a boom in SWLing causing receiver shortages and overworked station QSL staffs. However, I don't feel that North America will ever embrace SWLing the way that it has CBing. For one thing, there is not the widespread interest in learning about the world that is a prerequisite for an SWL explosion. Also, CBing became popular because it was relatively cheap, anonymous two way communication. A CBer can feed his or her ego while remaining anonymous with a 'handle'. An SWL just sits and listens--and most people find listening a difficult thing to do! So I don't fear an 'SWL explosion' in North America. However, I feel that there are a lot of people with multiband radios who might listen to SW if they knew what and where, etc. These are the people any publicity should be aimed for. I look forward to the day when I don't have to answer the following two questions from non-SWLs: "Are you a ham?" and "How can you understand what they are saying?"

D X e r s & S W L s (Steve Kennedy, FL) Re Diane Lévesque's comments in May RIB. Those of us in this hobby are a strange lot! Since I am a recluse by nature, it is only natural that I enjoy the DX hobby for human contact, and keep my technical skills sharpened. Most people would rather go to the bar next door, or the church down the street; but broadcasters on SW seem to be better company. Yep, my DX den is a maze of wires, dimly lighted dials, dozens of knobs, hundreds of funny looking cards, little pennants, and shelves of DX books! But that's home to me! I prefer to come home to this citadel of DXing; than go to a movie, disco, bar, or any other social activity. This may sound a little antisocial--but what the hell, I deal with people all day at work.

(Syd Osterman, Ont.) I feel that the real schism in our hobby is not really that between DXer and SWL...but rather that between 'those who do' and "those who don't", i.e. between those who understand and study the technology involved, as an extension of interest beyond those who only listen. If you have some idea of 'how it works' you probably won't be suckered by the manufacturer, the repairman or even your friendly mail order house!

(Jonathan Marks, England) I disagree with Gerry Bishop that DXperts don't exist. We certainly have a number in the UK. Of course, someone's DX regular is someone else's rare catch since this depends on location and receiver. The guy who can pull in Israel Radio on a SW crystal set is surely just as much a DXpert as the chap who pulls in ABC Perth on a Drake. Just moving around this country from home to University I'm amazed at the difference in reception on the same receiver of the same stations at two locations 500 km apart. All our true DXperts here are modest, work long hours for the hobby and get little reward except in knowing they've helped others enjoy the hobby more. Of course there are DX "Hot Shots" who may or may not deserve a "DXer of the Year Award" but you have hotshots in any field, arts or science.

(Dario Monferini, Italy) I agree with the statement said by our first lady Ms. Diane, "No one is better than the other" making DXing, exist many types of DXers, the collectors, the pure listeners, the competitors, the exhibitors-- so I think it is not necessary to start a valutation if we are the best or the worst but the most important step is trying our best to discuss our differents ideologisms and amplify our knowing trough people (and not trough QSL only).

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) There are those who skateboard, argue politics, customize vans, shoot skeets, watch birds or ants, collect SWL or QSL cards--and there are those who don't. So what.

O N Q S L s (Bruce F. Elving, MN) On the subject of not listening to a station that is unfriendly to people requesting QSLs-- I think the person is entirely justified to have this attitude--and it does not at all represent a lack of maturity. I find in my FM DX listening I will seek out stations that have verified in preference to those who are chronic unverifiers for my musical enjoyment. Too, this practice is aided by the multiplicity of stations with similar formats. Also, many of us are former broadcasters, and knowing that announcers and salespersons have a high turnover at commercial (and public stations, for announcers) outlets, it is common to have one's listening loyalty shifted away from the station that fires you! I wonder how you would react as a listener if KOSU were to come in to Knoxville? Would you be impelled to listen with the same degree of interest in KOSU's programming as you would if you had never been there? Or would you be listening to detect how their programming has perhaps changed for the worse after you have left? In short, what I am saying, be it in AM, FM, SW or SCA, a person will listen with the degree of prejudice he or she takes with him or her. This is normal, and I submit, desirable.

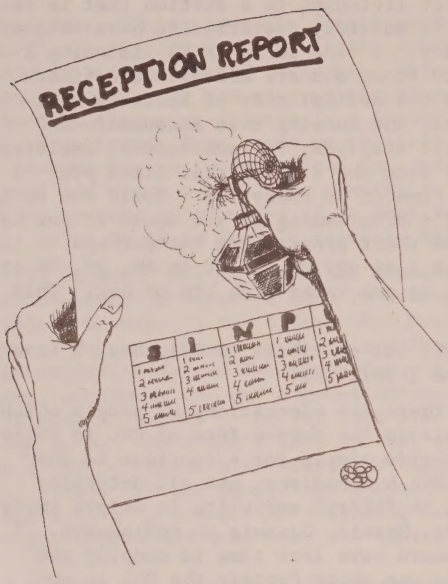
gh: Unlikely to hear KOSU in Knoxville, 100 kHz from WUOT, but on visits to Oklahoma, I have indeed found that the station has never been as good since I left, hi.

(Dario Monferini, Italy) In the NASWA and NRC bulletins there are elencations of people which has taped the stations which have heard; well, I think this is the future face of QSL in DXing. Why?? Simply cause too much stations almost everywhere verify simply for a courtesy to the writer, for a politeness.. This is the case of the 50 kW USA & Canadians, not all naturally but almost 90%. I know some Italian people who claims to be "DXers" and write it before their names like "Doctor" which have verified West Coast, Alaska, Hawaii, Oceania on mediumwave. I have seen these QSLs and I have seen how many chief engineers have lost time to compily and write friendly letters to people which was interested only one thing "obtein the QSL in any way! Even if it was immoral or illegal!" Well, this is not only the case of Italy; I have put under your eye the case I indiscutibly know, but all of you may know same old stories, and I think we must try to limit all these. Sad "QSLer" only in a way, writing TV Chief Engineering with our report also a call for the real controll on the reports they receive or in case they can't controll, the total stopping of verifications out like CFGM 1320 Richmond Hill Canada 50 kW has done.

(Steve Kennedy, FL) I feel that my statement about taping DX has been misunderstood. I am not against keeping tapes of DX as proof of reception. But, anyone can tape about 100 different stations in less than a month! Getting a verie from them, that's where the challenge is at. Most visitors to my DX den are more impressed with the QSLs than listening to 60 reels of tape full of IDs and interval signals! Tapes are fine, but find me a club that will issue a DX achievement award for taped stations heard!! Whenever I apply for a DX certificate, I make darn sure I have the QSLs needed for the award--because the award chairman may ask to see that QSL in question.

(Gerry Bishop, DE) I don't know that QSLs are all that bad. I enjoy the feeling of getting something back for some information on a station's broadcasts. I don't have a"gimme, gimme attitude" about stations. There are many that I haven't even sent a postcard to, including a few international BCers. As far as it proving reception, I don't really think I would send a report unless I was 90% sure I had the right station. And since I'm that sure I already heard the station, I don't need any more 'proof'. Many stations are really quite happy to develop a two-way communication with their listeners; this is particularly true of those broadcasters in Eastern Europe, despite the hash we get from their programs at times.

On the other hand, those listeners which only write "very nice show, please QSL" are giving the rest of us a bad image (This excludes, of course, the novices). Merely piling up a QSL collection proves very little, but building up a reputation with the SWBCers as one whose reports include the information they need, and not just another plea for what results in a worthless piece of paper, should certainly be the goal of any reporter. I will, when time allows, monitor for those stations which seem to have trouble making it into this area, giving day-to-day listings of quality and QRM. I feel this does more than just a 15-minute note copying.



FAILPROOF QSL TACTIC

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) The QSL card--a 'benchmark'? Yes. "Which measures a DXer/SWL's abilities"?? Abilities to what, receive, or to sweet-talk? This cartoon shows my opinion of the value of a QSL. Grete Osmundsen wrote me once telling me about a DX camp-out where in dealing with reception of Ecuadorian R. Iris, everyone wrote a report and mailed it to the station. They all contained the same program details and they were all in Spanish. "Only I received a reply," she said,"and that is the second reply sent out by that station. Did I get it because I am a girl? Well, perhaps or perhaps not. I do not know."

So much for "abilities."

But I don't want the QSL to disappear, as Roger Symes would like. They don't start the beginner off with the gimme-gimme approach unless clubs and other DXers put high value on sheer numbers of QSLs. What it does is establish personal contact with the listener, and particularly please the beginner, as well as pictorally display some aspect of particular interest from that issuing station's country. The QSL is helpful too for cases like Mike Hardester has outlined. Though they're not useful for proving anything to other DXers, they can be helpful when you're seeking to verify some unusual reception or other, for your own benefit. For proof of reception for the benefit of other DXers, I rely on my tapes.

REPORT FROM SA'UDI ARABIA (Creede Lambard, MT) About my listening habits out in Ras Tanura: For radio purposes, Sa'udi Arabia goes by GMT + 3 (altho, being an Islamic country, most activities are geared around local sunrise and sunset times). So when I got up at 0500 local I would hear the same programs I was used to hearing in the US evenings and my evening news was at 1800Z, just before I went to bed. Unfortunately, most of the programming coming my way at that time was in Arabic, of which I understand very little. English programming from and/or to Europe generally doesn't start until 1900 (2000 CET), 1830 at the very earliest (Sweden, Nederland). So I got most of my listening done on any Fridays I happened to be off and home during the day. The high point was generally IBA at 1200 with the 'other side of the news' and TGIF. Occasionally I would get something different and interesting such as Pakistan, Afghanistan or SLBC (never did find Veritas, darnit) but much of what I heard was dreary in the extreme: R. Station Bombast and Bullshit, for one, and R. Moscow Afro-Asian service, and don't you believe there's any essential difference between the two. They even use the same announcers, if they be in truth announcers; I have the feeling the main announcer is generated by a rather flatulent computer with a random number generator and a limited Marxist vocabulary. There was no government interference, actually. I even had a relatively easy time bringing in my Yaesu FRG-7 once I convinced the customs officer it wasn't a transmitter. Sa'udi, being an Islamic state, seems to be content to let the average Arab's racial memory tune out anything he might hear over the radio which would be uncomplimentary to Islam or to the Arabs (especially to the house of Sa'ud, the ruling family). This doesn't stop them from employing print censors, however.

MUSIC ON SW (Creede Lambard, MT) Know what cracks me up? People who say they came to SWX to get away frm all that American rock crap, so what happens? They tune to R. Australia and hear Andy Gibb, Helen Reddy, Olivia Newton-John and the Little River Band, or to the CBC NS and hear Anne Murray and Gordon Lightfoot, then write to the companies concerned and complain about that American rock. To those companies those are native sons. Of course, there is no

excuse for playing anything genuinely American except as a brief indicatinn of what Latverians are listening to these days. If Radio Latveria is running the "Latverian Hit Parade" and three American songs from 1971 turn up in the middle of it, that should tell us something about somebody somewhere. Otherwise, I'm all for hearing the homegrown stuff; while I was in London I heard a lot of English groups like Showaddywaddy, whose music I liked and who I never heard of over here, and I don't mind tuning in to, for instance, the Jolly Good Show occasionally to hear more of them. And if ya don't like em, bud, well that's what God gave you a typewriter and tuning dial for. (To tune away and complain)

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) That "Don't Play Our Own Sick Music" thing. I've GOT to comment on that. Art knows what he likes, and he obviously don't like rock or country music, and that's his privilege, but I don't think he should go speaking for me or anyone else who happens to like that kind, or any kind of music. He ought to just speak for himself. No music is'sick', as I see it--it could be an expression of sickness, but it itself is not sick. How well it expresses what it was intended to express, or how well it creates an atmosphere, is how I critique music of any kind, so I don't want to be included in what he refers to as "we Americans". I believe in America, too, but America is as much sex and dope as it is anything else, and people have been hollering and screaming about it because people like him have refused to even recognize those problems, or listen to them. Country music is about house and home and clandestine intrigue, and that's America, too. Jazz and soul is ghetto, and that's just as American as Arthur is. So I wonder--WHAT is the America that Arthur T. Ingram believes in? And why is he surprised that Australia, Europe, Africa and South America subscribe to it? Much of our music comes from those places, and the hybrids we produce are likewise liked by them, for they have the same problems with the things Americans sing about as well, so it is their music as well as ours. Would he like folk music? Is that what he asks for? But folk music is a lot of 'protest' song or descriptive song, and that only covers the material other forms of song/music do, so that can't be it. So where is this America he believes in that has nothing to do with the America existing today? Puzzling.

WHAT INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTERS NEED TO LEARN

(Ron Myers, Manager, Adventist World Radio-Europe, Lisbon, via World DX Club) Who have impressed me most as manager of a significantly expanding, strictly non-political, international radio broadcasting organisation, are the DXers. I speak not only of casual hobbyists and SWLs, but of the highly skilled, self-trained quasi-professionals whose chief avocation and greatest delight is to be 'in the know'. I wonder if DXers generally realize the profound impact they have on broadcasters--and comprehend the heavy responsibility they carry--for good or for evil? Because DXers are the most active correspondents with broadcasters, what they say far outweighs the numbers within their ranks. As a DXer, what are you saying?

Beyond doubt, the shame of international broadcasting today and the great frustration to DXers and would-be listeners is mutual interference. They say, there are too many transmitters operating on too few channels, and on the first count they are absolutely correct. Endless propaganda and counter-propaganda wars are waged, jammed, then made redundant on a dozen or more simultaneous frequencies at super high power. In the heat of battle, some cast aside all common decency, opting to operate out of band where they easily overpower amateur, mobile, fixed services, etc. These bands then suffer the aggravation of the squeeze-play, and the menace of international arrogance is passed on and on. All who would wish to address an important message to the world could easily be accomodated--even during periods ot reduced ionospheric propagation--provided a few gentlemanly and elementary understandings were established and practiced:

1) That no more than one frequency be used in each of two bands to simultaneously transmit a program to any given target area.
2) That the race to higher transmitter powers be frozen at the present 600-kilowatt level, and eventually be rolled back to 250 kW or less.
3) That if truth is stronger than fiction, tell the truth! But refrain from muzzling (jamming) the mouths of 'liars'. What is there to fear?
4) That all IBCers cooperate faithfully with coordination efforts of the I F R B.

Much more could be said, but if only these four points could be said often and courageously enough! If it could somehow be brought home to the consciences of all international broadcasters that our propaganda is no more believable than the courtesy we show in spreading it! But I know of no other way we will get all the message unless our listeners, made up of a great number of DXers, tell us so. DXers are all too often reminded that broadcasters aren't very concerned about them. Stations only care about people who listen to programs. They are only after SWLs in the target areas, so they say, but as I scan the SW bands, I all too frequently hear of small and large changes being made to accomodate 'listeners' requests. And I am more than suspicious that the greater proportion of these so-called 'listeners' making such useful suggestions are in fact DXers.

As a DXer, what are you saying? Simply, I like your programme, send me a QSL? or are you taking time to shoulder your responsibility in helping broadcasters learn courtesy? Sadly, international broadcasting is largely an extension of the blood and guts battle of super powers for world supremacy. But the listener still controls the ultimate weapon, the power of choice--the tuning dial--at the tips of his fingers. The listener cannot be coerced. Neither side will win the propaganda war without courteous, friendly persuasion. Reminding the broadcaster that he is not credible and that you shall not listen until he amends his ethics will have its subtle effect. Encouraging co-operation, discouraging chaos in every big and little way, will have its consequence, and every last one of us will profit from its peaceful ends.

"...and first of all... prayers... and giving of thanks... for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceful life in all godliness and honesty" The Bible, I Timothy 2: 1, 2

W H E R E A R E T H E W O M E N ? (Nick Hall-Patch, BC, Apr. 29 IRCA DX Monitor) Susan Sirulnick raised an interesting point a few issues back--why are there not more female DXers? I asked my wife and she replied that only the truly insane would lose sleep trying to log distant stations. Is insanity more likely among the male of the species? I seem to remember that Evelyn Portzer claimed that women were more intelligent than men and therefore realized the futility of DXing. My own semi-serious theory is that men have traditionally been 'enthusiasts', i.e. people who indulge in pointless activities like DXing or matchbook collecting just for the fun of it. This may be due to the fact that the OM had a little more time in the evening while his wife continued in unrelenting domesticity 'til she dropped. Perhaps with the onset of women's lib, more women will discover the joys of pointless pass-times, like DXing, hi. Anyway, enough two-bit philosophizing for now; I've got some DXing to do. 73.

S H O R T W A V E I N L I T E R A T U R E (Jim Weber, PA) This is excerpted directly from J. Joyce's "Finnegan's Wake":

"And as for Ibdullin what of Himana, that their tolvtubular high fidelity dialdialler, as modern as tomorrow afternoon and in appearance up to the minute, equipped with supershielded umbrella antennas for distance getting and connected by the magnetic links of a Bellini-Tosti coupling system with a vitaltone speaker, capable of capturing skybuddies, harbour craft emittences, key clickings, vaticum cleaners, due to woman formed mobile or man made static and bawling the whowle hamshack and wobble down in an eliminium sounds pound so as to serve him up a melegoturny marygoraumd, electronically filtered for allirish earths and ohmes. This harmonic condenser enginium (the Mole) they caused to be worked from a magazine battery which was tuned up up by twintriodic singuvalvulous pipelines with a howdrocephalous enlargement, a gain control ofcircumcentric megacycles, ranging from the antidulibnium onto the serostaatarean."

Well, that was the state of the art in 1939 and I offer no explanation or interpretation. And speaking of literature and SW, what about Ezra Pound's broadcasts from Rome??

(Henry Rockwood III, FL) Along the lines of the mention of radio in literature: Jean Raspoit's "The Camp of the Saint" contains many references to thinly disguised fictations of Europe I and Radio Luxembourg.

INTERMODULATION DISTORTION

by Phil Schnabel, Box 644, Broadus MT 59317

A lot has been said about the need for a high order of strong signal performance in receivers to achieve real DX-ability on today's HFBC bands. Two indices of performance which are often quoted by manufacturers are for cross-modulation and r-f blocking, but another factor which is widely overlooked is the receiver's susceptibility to intermodulation distortion.

Intermodulation (IM) products are yielded by the mixing of all signals which fall within a receiver frontend's r-f passband, and cause interference when a resultant IM product is sufficiently strong to mask or cripple a relatively weak or undiscovered signal. IM products are categorized as even-order and odd-order. The strongest even-order IM products, 2nd-order IM, follow from the formulae

$$f_1 + f_2 = f_{IM} \quad \text{and} \quad f_1 - f_2 = f_{IM}$$

For example, two signals at 6 MHz and 5 MHz yield 2nd-order IM products at 11 MHz and 1 MHz. It is apparent that 2nd-order IM products will not occur if the r-f passband is an octave or less. No practicable degree of r-f selectivity, however, can eliminate all odd-order IM, as it can be produced by two closely spaced signals. The strongest odd-order IM products, 3rd-order IM, follow from the formulae

$$2f_1 - f_2 = f_{IM} \quad \text{and} \quad 2f_2 - f_1 = f_{IM}$$

For example, two signals at 9.6 MHz and 9.7 MHz yield 3rd-order IM products at 9.5 MHz and 9.8 MHz.

3rd-order IM then is the gremlin to be reckoned with, and a general manner of specifying the 3rd-order IM performance of a receiver is the intercept point method. This permits you to compare the IM performance of two receivers, and also lets you compute the level of resultant IM products given the strength of the two offending in-band signals.[1, 2] If we know the 3rd-order IM intercept point of a receiver frontend is X dBm, and two offending in-band signals (f_1 and f_2) each have an amplitude of Y dBm below the intercept point, then the resultant in-band 3rd-order IM products will have equivalent amplitudes of

$$X - 3Y \text{ dBm}$$

Suppose that your receiver has a 3rd-order IM intercept point of 0 dBm, and you are tuning to 4.950 MHz to listen for Radio Madre de Dios, Peru. And assume that the receiver frontend "sees" both the utility station at 4.975 MHz and WWV at 5.000 MHz at -30 dBm levels. According to the formula, the Peruvian will be indistinguishable from the 3rd-order IM product at 4.950 MHz unless its signal strength exceeds -90 dBm. Had your receiver had an intercept point of -10 dBm, the Peruvian would have been inaudible until it topped -70 dBm. The same figures ofcourse would also apply to any desired station at the frequency of the second resultant 3rd-order IM product, 5.025 MHz. To convert dBm to the voltage required at a matched antenna and 50-ohm receiver input termination, see table 1.

The importance of a high degree of intermodulation performance is obvious, but if you don't want to invest in a receiver having a high intercept point, there are some lugubrious ways to improve an IM dog. The first is to refit it with high quality mixers to boost overall IM performance.[1] The second, a partial solution, is to construct r-f bandpass filters for the bands in which you're interested to eliminate IM products resulting from out-of-band signals.[3] A third alternative, also a partial solution, is to find a tunable r-f filter which will eliminate IM products resulting from signals some percent off frequency.

Table 2 lists the intercept points of some current communications receivers. These figures are to serve only as a guide to relative performance, as test conditions were not standardized, and some of the figures are derived from manufacturer specifications.

Table 1. Volt sensitivity vs. dBm for matched 50-ohm receiving systems.

0 dBm = 448 mV	-8 dBm = 178 mV	-16 dBm = 70.8 mV	-60 dBm = 448 uV
-1 dBm = 398 mV	-9 dBm = 158 mV	-17 dBm = 63.2 mV	-70 dBm = 142 uV
-2 dBm = 356 mV	-10 dBm = 142 mV	-18 dBm = 56.2 mV	-80 dBm = 44.8 uV
-3 dBm = 316 mV	-11 dBm = 126 mV	-19 dBm = 50.2 mV	-90 dBm = 14.2 uV
-4 dBm = 282 mV	-12 dBm = 112 mV	-20 dBm = 44.8 mV	-100 dBm = 4.48 uV
-5 dBm = 252 mV	-13 dBm = 100 mV	-30 dBm = 14.2 mV	-110 dBm = 1.42 uV
-6 dBm = 224 mV	-14 dBm = 90.0 mV	-40 dBm = 4.48 mV	-120 dBm = 0.45 uV
-7 dBm = 200 mV	-15 dBm = 80.0 mV	-50 dBm = 1.42 mV	-130 dBm = 0.14 uV

Table 2. 3rd-order intermodulation intercept points of some communications receivers.

RACAL RA6774**	+40 dBm
RACAL RA6772E**	+37.5 dBm
RACAL RA1772*	+28 dBm
Rohde & Schwartz EK 56**	+20 dBm
Rohde & Schwartz HF 1030**	+20 dBm
National HRO-600**	+18 dBm
Collins 651S-1*	+13 dBm
Galaxy R-1530 in preselector bypass mode**	+13 dBm
ITT Mackay Marine 3020A/3021A**	+9 dBm
Atlas 180/210*	+3 dBm
Eddystone 1830**	-2 dBm
Galaxy R-1530 with preselector in operation**	-3.5 dBm
Collins R-390A*	-4.5 dBm
Signal One CX7*	-5 dBm
Collins 51S-1**	-7 dBm
Collins 75S-3C/KWM-2A*	-10 dBm
Drake R-4C modified with Sherwood 2.3 kHz filter*	-10.5 dBm
Drake DSR-2**	-17.5 dBm
Ten-Tec Argonaut*	-19.5 dBm
Raytheon 1230A**	-20 dBm
Yaesu FT-101*	-21.5 dBm
Drake SPR-4**	-25 dBm
Drake R-4C without modification*	-26 dBm
Yaesu FRG-7**	-35 dBm

*Test data from Ulrich L. Rohde, reference 4, and J. Robert Sherwood.
**Manufacturer specifications and derivations by David C. Mackes.
Notes: The FRG-7 intercept point was derived from Popular Electronics test data.
The HF 1030 is a newly introduced, highly versatile receiver designed by Rohde & Schwartz, and manufactured in the U. S. Some of its features are 10 kHz to 30 MHz coverage, 10 Hz frequency synthesizer increments, selectable sweep or step tuning, 0.375-, 1.9-, 2.7-, and 5.8-kHz i-f filters with 1 : 2 shape factors (6/60 dB), electronic bandpass tuning, and remote control capability. Price is $3,500. For more information contact Rohde & Schwartz Sales Co. (U. S. A.), Inc., 14 Gloria Lane, Fairfield, New Jersey 07006.

References:

1. Alex J. Burwasser, WB4ZNV, "Reducing Intermodulation Distortion in High-Frequency Receivers", Ham Radio, March, 1977, page 26.

2. James R. Fisk, W1DTY, "Receiver Noise Figure, Sensitivity, and Dynamic Range", Ham Radio, October, 1975, page 8.

3. Leonard H. Anderson, "Top-Coupled Bandpass Filter", Ham Radio, June, 1977, page 34.

4. Ulrich L. Rohde, DJ2LR, "High Dynamic Range Receiver Input Stages", Ham Radio, October, 1975, page 26.

ON ANTENNAS (Will Sibus, NY) I have had a 'SLINKY' for at least six months, and have a very high opinion of it, as I was familiar with it way back when (50s & 60s). The U.S. wanted a compact, portable, quick set up-take down antenna to cover VLF to VHF, receive and transmit. Well, the guy is probably in the loony bin for even suggesting such a simple toy, but IT DOES WORK!! My bedroom is on the second floor, 20' x 20'. Perfect, except for one thing--my parents (in their late 70s) don't understand what that 'thing' stretched across the floor is. So, I put a small screw-eye in each corner and one on each wall in the center. This gives you many combinations of directions. Slinky can be used either in the tuned or untuned mode. Myself, I have an AMECO PLF-2 preamplifier so all I have to do is approximate the length. This makes it perfect for me, as I can change directions, length or even store it all away in 2 minutes flat. Since it's a 4" coil and using a little pi-r-squared you get a very flexible antenna of zero to over 300' (with tuning). I also find that due to the electrical characteristics, static and local noise (power lines, etc.) are also at minimum. I'm not plugging it but just my experience. Try various combinations of positions for the directional tuning--i.e., one leg E-W, the other N-S, or even vertical, or as I have done once, a Z. Fits my needs perfectly as my physical flexibility is pretty limited, and having to do things alone.. Next best thing to reading RIB --ha. Oh yes, my receiver is a modified (to MY needs) Heath GR-78, coupled to cassette and 8-track recorders.

ON RECEIVERS (George Wood, Sweden) ICF-5900W. I picked up this interesting toy while in the States, and a solar panel that can be used to run it. The receiver is excellent, for the size and money. It really makes my old Telefunken Partner International look like a toy. It doesn't have nearly the selectivity of my main receiver, an SX-190, but on some bands it has just as much sensitivity. I got it because I like to take a receiver with me when I travel, and the thing is small enough to even take back-packing. Besides, as DX Editor, I need to monitor the tropical bands, not included on the SX-190, and with expanding bands, a receiver that takes in everything becomes a necessity.

On the basis of my experience with the ICF-5900W, I can point out a couple of mistakes in Larry Magne's review in the WRTH. First, it definitely does have a dial light. In fact, you can see the button in the WRTH picture. The question of SSB resolution with the BFO is relative. It isn't as easy as with my Argonaut, or even the SX-190, but you can do it. I went camping with my parents in a redwood grove up the Northern California coast. It wasn't too hard to tune in to the New Directions Roundtable, altho the bandspread could be a lot broader. It's easier in Europe, with less QRM on the ham bands.

Larry also says you can't use ni-cads with the ICF-5900. Well, you can. I got three "D" cells at Radio Shack and they work just fine. I use them with a 150 ma solar panel I ordered from a company in Wisconsin for $75. The panel puts out 16 volts, which makes it suitable for charging anything from there on down. I took the receiver to the EDXC meeting. One morning, the batteries ran low, so I put the receiver in the window when I left. When I came back in the evening the receiver ran fine. The receiver seems to be popular. Bob Zanotti also had one at Mölndal. I bought mine in San Francisco, and had a terrible time finding one. No one had them, except the Sony agent. But one of their stores had already sold every model, in-

cluding the display model, and the other store had only the display model left. They very reluctantly sold it to me.

(Syd Osterman, Ont.) Yaesu FRG-7000. "LED" and "GMT". The new Yaesu for SWL use has the now mandatory LED digital readout. PLUS, a digital clock to show local or GMT at the flip of a switch! Wow! Also, the RF attenuator is now a single push-button and the tone control is continuously variable--otherwise it seems to be basic FRG-7 for $749.00 (in Canada) or about $300 more than an FRG-7 in Canada! Yaesu must feel that if they show where and when, it doesnt matter whether the station breaks through the QRM or not!

Don't You Believe Larry Magne in the 1978 WRTH that the ceramic filter in the FRG-7 is made by "Mirada". The name is Murata, and the filter in my mark I was a Toko! I replaced it with a considerably sharper (more selective) VTD3-1. A US-made filter that greatly improves the FRG-7. I would suggest this modification to technically skilled owners as a do-it-yourself project. Do not attempt this, or other changes, unless you are famillar with radio repair.

(Will Martin, MO) RF-2800. I have recently purchased a Panasonic RF-2800 to use as my bedside rx. Approx. $230, including local sales tax, from a local catalog distributor. Am quite pleased with it. I concur with the comments included in the 78 WRTH review, and add the following: There is a definite difference in tuning shortwave with a digital readout rx. It's a matter of attitude, and I fear it will quite spoil me for any other tuning method. It's not the accuracy that is the point; I had (and still have) a Hy-Gain Galaxy R-530 that tunes to within 100 kHz accuracy, with an analog tuning mechanism (combination of slide-rule dial and marked periphery of rotary knob); the accuracy of the Panasonic is no better, but ease of readout and swiftness of tuning change the way I tune SW. Never before did I feel so free to zip between different frequencies of a single stn's broadcasts; I did it, but not too often. For example, Glenn's transmissions on RCI Sunday DXprograms-- I found myself jumping from frequency to frequency the first time I used this rx, between the European and the African transmissions, and also between the various frequencies of the same versions, in order to listen to the clearest signal of those available, and to hear where in the broadcast various items would be aired. I am starting to treat SW the same as I do TV, flicking between channels as the mood strikes, and returning to previous locations to carry on from where I left them. Never before did I do this on SW. On the R-530 there is a pre-selector to peak, a band switch, and a MHz selector knob, in addition to the regular tuning knob, and to quote someone who once described it, "It tunes like a tank"--it has a very heavy feel to it. The Panasonic has only a single tuning knob and a bandswitch, with a two-speed tuning feature on the knob; the bandswitch needs only to be touched when going above 16 MHz or below 8 MHz, so most daytime/early evening listening is done in that center position, between those limits. But having no preselector means that switching bands causes little more effort in tuning, even then.

Other comments-- lousy strong signal performance, of course (but then, isn't everything like this these days?) I cannot use an external antenna; even a very short longwire produces enormous amounts of crud, and the RF Gain control is of little or no help. However, this means one less wire attached to the thing; the reason my wife made me remove the R-530 from the bedside was the wires leading into the thing, and thus this one is more acceptable. Quite adequate performance with the whip up about three or four sections, in a second-floor room. Accuracy seems fine, as is stability and freedom from drift, both during long listening sessions and over periods of power-off and warm-up. FM performance, due to the swamping effect of strong signals, is wretched; the strong locals are all over the dial; and weaker locals pop in from the morass of the background. I have to keep the antenna all the way in to listen to FM, which prevents me from getting certain weak locals at all.

The sound quality is good for SW; for FM, not as good as another Panasonic portable (AM/FM/Cassette) that I have. Having real bass and treble controls is a relief on SW--never before have I had any such on an SW rx, only treble cut switches or poorly-acting rotary controls. Have not spent much time on AM (MW) yet with it; it seems reasonably sensitive. The fact that the digital dial only works on SW annoys me; I can see why it wouldn't work on FM--different front ends--but why not leave it on when AM is selected? Or is it in the double conversion part of the front end which doesn't work on AM? Documentation with my radio was limited to a rather skimpy instruction booklet; there is a reference to a "SW Manual" in this booklet, but

no such manual was included in the carton; has anyone else in RIB's readership bought one of these and gotten such a book enclosed? I hesitate to waste time writing Panasonic; they never answer inquiries or send requested literature. Is there anyone really there at the Secaucus NJ address?

SSB reception, due to the good feature of a BFO pitch control, is pretty easy and has functioned well on the ham and utility transmissions I have tested it with. Stability is fine. The S-meter is worthless; either all the way over or not registering at all. It does fluctuate with SSB, and can be controlled by the RF Gain, so it is working; however, the readings are of no value. Dial calibration, on the analog dial, is OK; however, the markings are so sparse for AM and FM that it is most annoying. All in all, a fine SW uint; but nothing much for AM or FM.

Final conclusions: In spite of all the nits picked above, I really like it. If it were stolen, I think that I'd run out and buy another. For SW, it is a joy to use. Too bad the FM and AM sections are not ona par with the SW. If anyone knows of circuit modifications that would allow the digital display to work on FM and AM, I would love to have them installed (after the warranty expires, that is).

Don't You Believe...

...the SCDX report of a possible SWBC station on Kerguelen Island. The German department of R. France International tells me there is no such station (H. Rainer, SCDX June 27)
...that Sporadic E occurs on VHF and UHF as on BBC World Radio Club June 7 (gh)
...that R. Nederland has a transmission on 17765 at 1830-2030 to Africa, as on BBC WRC June 7; it's Lebanon (gh)
...that Polish Radio uses every frequency on all meter bands listed for its 0200-0400 program to North America, as on R. Moscow DX May 27 (gh)
...that the station at Lama Kara on 3222 is Radio-TV Tongalese, as on R. Australia Club Forum May 27 (gh)
...that there's any such place as "Maurititius" having a "Maurititius DX Club" as mentioned several times by Tom Streator on TWR DX Special May 20 (gh)
...that HCJB broadcasts on 11920 at 0130, as on TWR DX Special May 20 (gh)
...that the Voice of Revolutionary Ethiopia is in Indonesia, as Warren Moulton said on R. Australia Club Forum May 13 (gh)
...that "9110" is the ANARC ZIP, as Tom Streator gave it twice on TWR DX Special May 13. You'd think anyone as American-sounding as he would know ZIPs have to be 5-digit at least (gh)
...that R. Vilnius broadcasts in Russian at 2300 as on same program; it's English (gh)
...that R. Ecclésia was active 4/4/78 at 2010 over 3355 as in DSWCI SW News; it was nationalized some time ago (Dario Monferini, Italy)
...that if you tune 4825 kHz in W. Germany, at 0430 you will hear La Perla del Sur, Peru, or La Voz de la Selva, Peru--unless you are Mandrake; this is only LV de la Selva; reported over DSWCI (Monferini)
...that exists a so-called R. Buramanga over 4855 kHz as stated in DSWCI May 78 SW tips; this is R. Bucaramanga 4845, well heard in Europe (Monferini)
...that R. Atlandita now operates on 4890 like stated in same place (Monferini)
...that the new editor of DSWCI QSL column knows the existence of a special material to be utilised if you make a mistake on the typewriter. I have counted 45 mistakes, among them: Sudan: R. Dindurman 960; Holland: R. Bloemen Dall 1223; West Germany: Suddentscher Rundmuntacker (that last word sounds more offensive); Yugoslavia: R. Capodistria 9620, which has never been on SW (Dario Monferini)
...that BBC was off the air in May, despite the lack of any mention of us in June RIB, tho everything from Albania to Zaire was mentioned (BBC World Radio Club June 14)
...that Guatemala is 'right next door to Panamá', as on Paul Harvey News June 15 (gh)
...Larry Magne in the1978 WRTH that the 'normal' attenuator switch position of the FRG7 is always the most sensitive. Try the "DX" or even the "LOCAL" when looking for weak DX signals in

crowded bands. Strong unwanted signals near the passband will swamp the AGC, and desensitize the FRG7. This receiver has lots of gain--all it needs is a gain control and AGC defeat. The wisdom of Yaesu gave us a DX switch--try it; you might even find RSA in the 25 and 31mb QRM (Syd Osterman, Ont.)

...that I'm deliberately trying to confuse everyone in my DSWCI column "Programme Listener". The item about ORF-Austria re-printed in RIB 15 was contributed by Alexandros Koutamanis, Greece, and not Edwin Southwell. I'll admit, tho, that it's entirely my fault, this time (Alan Roe, England)

...that the bilingual Dutch/English station on 4850 at 0130 is the 'widely heard' R. Clarín, as Clayton Howard stated on DXPL May 11. It's SRS-Suriname (Terry L. Krueger, FL)

...that the Hillsborough River, FL, is brown due to 'pollution' as stated on "Tips for Real Living" May 11. It's called tannic acid (decomposing vegetable matter) (Krueger)

...that Florida is such a poor DX location, as Henry Rockwood claims. I've been DXing in this area for six years and have heard 158 countries; not much from SE Asia, and there is lots of thunderstorm QRN, but there are advantages, such as being close to the Caribbean and Latin America (Terry L. Krueger, Casselberry)

...the Vatican Radio schedule given on R. Australia's Japanese DX program May 14, and perhaps on Club Forum--all the times were as VR gives them, in CET, not in GMT! (gh)

...the article on Nordic SW broadcasters in the March issue of the excellent Spanish monthly, Receptor. Most of the text concerning "R. Suecia" (Sweden) was actually about Switzerland (Suiza). The mixing up of Sweden and Switzerland is quite common (SCDX April 18)

...anyone implicitly, for each has his own naturally limited point of view or knowledge--while not necessarily wrong, but incomplete. To get the truth behind dispute, or statements presented as Absolutely Correct, one must do one's own research rather than depend entirely on anyone else's view, and even then, recognize the fact that you still haven't understood all there is to understand on the subject, for if you could, you would say that you have access to all the knowledge in existence, and be equating yourself to a god. Desiderata: "Listen to others, even the dull and ignorant, for they too have their story ... you are a child of the Universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here." (Diane S. Lévesque, IL)

...that Lebanon's on 11825, as Kuznetsov said on R. Moscow DX June 3; RL moved to better 11965 two weeks before. ...that a "R. São Paulo" in Brazil has Spanish on 15145, as Paul said on same program. First of all, it's Portuguese, and secondly it's R. Jornal do Comércio, which happens to be in São Paulo (Richard Stoller, NY)

...that R. Jornal do Comercio is in São Paulo, as Richard Stoller alleges above; it's in Recife, thousands of kilometres away (gh)

...that R. Nederland's transmissions are 80 minutes, as alleged in the article "Hearing Holland" in the July-Aug 78 Elementary Electronics. It must take years for the submitted articles to get into print! (Richard Stoller)

Clipping Copies

HOW TO ORDER This service is not available to those who receive a sample RIB and do not subscribe. List numbers of copies desired. Remit 10¢ per page. Unless outside USA, enclose SASE with appropriate postage. Roughly 5 pages can be sent for each ounce. You may underestimate and take your chances on postage due. Postage elsewhere is 20¢ per ounce by surface; 31¢ per half ounce by air. You may also use this list as a bibliography for periodicals to which you have access.

356-358. Murphysboro woman 'sees the world' with help from her SW radio, newspaper feature about Diane Lévesque + her rebuttal.

359. Music on Shortwaves (from European viewpoint). Edwin Southwell, England, WDXC Contact May

360-361. AIDX Visits HCJB Project 500. Bill Jasper, AIDX Journal May.

362-363. The Gateway of the Waves of Radio Japan Programs (Yamata station). R. Japan News 6/78

364-365. Made-in-US TV a Hit Around the World. USN&WR April 17

366-367. Interview with R. Peter Straus, VOA Director. USN&WR, June 12

368-372. Eavesdropping on the World's Secrets. About NSA. USN&WR, June 26

373. Soviets Deploy New Jamming Gear (in East Germany). Harry F. Eustace, Electronic Warfare/ Defense Electronics, May 1978

374. Snooper locates radio transmitters. $1 million antenna. Electronics, May 11

375-377. "God's Truck-Stop Man". $120,000 contributor to HCJB. Wash. Post, May 15
378-386. Stubblefield--the first name in broadcasting from 1885. The case for Nathan B. Stubblefield as inventor of the wireless telephone. May be available free from Wm. T. Stubblefield Co., Inc., P O Box TV, Casanova VA 22017.
387-388. How to Identify the Spanish Stations. The Wireless Magazine, March 1926.
389-391. An American at the Court of King Radio. Fred Smith, WLW, on his tour of European broadcasters. The Wireless Magazine, Jan. 1926
392. Pay for Better Service. Nigel Joiner, BBC Staff Journal Ariel, Apr. 14. Attack by a commons committee, on the "Think Tank" proposals to cut BBC external services.
393. CB Radio in the Soviet Union. John D. McClain, AP, May 14.
394-395. 'Electronic smog' found in Eugene may affect health. AP, Mar. 27, and Navy Radio Signals Seen Possible Oregon Villain. Phil Cogswell, Wash. Post, Mar. 29
396-398. Vatican Radio: The Voice of Faith to Eastern Europe. Charles Savitsky, Our Sunday Visitor, May 7
399-400. Critics Say FCC Unequal to Task Presented by Communications Boom. Richard Starnes, Scripps-Howard; Knoxville News-Sentinel, May 7
401-402. US Has Lost an Agency, but Gained a New Voice... David Binder, NY Times, Apr. 2
403. Punching Holes in the Ionosphere. Science News, Vol. 113, No. 16
404-407. BBC WS Arts, Features, Music, Literature and Drama pgm guide, May-August 1978
408-409. Music Lover's Companion: KWMU /St. Louis/ Listeners Don't Like to Hear Talk. Larry Katzenstein, St. Louis Post-Dispatch
410. Radio silenced in fight over who can use tape recorder. Jerusalem Post, Feb.
411. Everything's Frozen but the Radio Waves--Some notes on AFAN /Antarctica/ John A. Callarman, SPEEDX April 1978
412-415. How do you Know? Outline of KGEI audience research techniques. Newsletter, 4/78
416. USIA's Successor Is Taking Shape. Federal Times, Feb. 20, and Independence from State Dept. Sought for VOA. UPI, Nov. 24
417. Switch to Satellite Causing Fuss at VOA. Federal Times, Feb.13
418. Survey of Man-Made Electrical Noise Affecting Radio Broadcasting. QST, June 1976
419. List of six Ham Radio magazine articles on receivers, etc., of interest to SWLs, 1975-77
420-421. Sunspot Cycle 21--The Peak, How Much, and When. O. Okleshen, W9RX, HR Report Mar 17
422. James Reston on the VOA, while visiting Syria. NY Times, Sun., Mar. 12 et al.
423. World of Broadcasting in Italy is a Jungle of Competition. Ina Lee Selden, NYT, Mar. 13
424. UN Is Worried by World Efforts to Curtail Flow of Information. David Burnham, NYT Feb 26
425. All India Radio Network Looks Like Echo of Ex-Gandhi Gov't. Ernest Weatherall, Variety,
426. The man who fired Imus-in-the-morning /Bob Pittman/. Charles Paikert, NY Daily /Feb 15 News, Mar. 12
427-428. A Quiet Revolution in Radio. Len Feldman, Village Voice Feb. 20..Stereo AM, Quad FM
429. Voice of Peace may close: No ads. Ze'ev Schul, Jerusalem Post, Feb. 17 /it didn't/
430. Angola Criticizes Bishops, Closes Catholics' Radio. Lewis H. Dinguid, Wash. Post Jan 27
431. Russian Radios Help Spread the Gospel. David E.J. Oram, Good News Broadcaster, 7-8 1977
432. Sri Lanka Mission Impossible Attained /TWR/. Don Rubesh, Good News Broadcaster Nov 1977
433. Religious Broadcasters Escape from 'Ghetto'. Kenneth A. Briggs, NYTNS and Taxicab Driver Turned Religious Broadcaster /Russell J. Fiedler on KXEN St. Louis/
434-438. Sounds Alternative, Free Radio Campaign, Ireland. Feb-Mar 1978 issue.
439. Pirate TV station makes waves. Syracuse Univ. Daily Orange, Apr. 20
440. FCC Expect 'Lucky 7' Lying Low. James Ehmann, Syracuse Post-Standard, Apr. 18; and Renegade TV Station on Air. Syracuse Post-Standard, Apr. 17
441. FCC Hunts an Illicit TV Station That Pirated Some Notable Shows. NY Times, Apr. 19
442. FCC examines station. Also on Lucky-7, from UPI. UT Daily Beacon, Apr. 20
443-444. Tamworth a Long Way from Nashville. On Australia's Country Music Capital and station 2TM, 1290 kHz. Carl D. Robinson, AP, Mar. 12
445. An Alternative to Jamming; Let There Be Light /on BBCWS/ two LA Times editorials.
446. Media Personalities Call for Changes in VOA. Richard Weintraub, Wash Post., c. Mar. 15
447. Slaves to the Language. David Lamb, LA Times via Wash. Post Feb. 19. On English vs. Swahili in Kenya, etc., touches on broadcasting

448-459. Eavesdropping: The Radio Signature of the Earth. TV leakage from the earth allows detection of our civilization at interstellar distances. W.T. Sullivan III, S. Brown, C. Wetherill. Science, 27 Jan 1978

460. (Shorts): Tune in abroad. Jeffrey Blyth, Family Circle June 14; and Pakistan Strikers Seize TV Station. AP, Feb. 18; and Jamming TV in Tokyo; and East German Radio Airs Religious News, Reuters Apr. 29; and Mutual Plans to Buy Its First Radio Station /WCFL/; and Controversial Documentary Film Broadcast on Israeli TV, Reuter, Feb. 13 + followup

R E A C T I O N S T O R I B (Harry Waldron, PA) I find RIB to be filled with a mixture of interesting tidbits and banal statements the same as shortwave broadcasting or life itself.

(Arthur E. MacBeth, CA) Thank you for a fascinating publication, unique in the hobby.

(Buryl ---) As for subscribing, my sample copy is a lifetime supply of bigoted opinion...but you're on to a good thing-- a forum for (often isolated) SWLs is viable, particularly if you stir up bickering and sniping.

(Charley Hoffman, PA) RIB has been saturated with views on the big Euro and Afro powerhouse stations but little has been said about R. Japan, R. Singapore, VOFC, VOI, etc. We on the East Coast can barely hear these stations, so please more comments from West Coast RIB readers in the future.

(Todd Graves, NY) I was pleased to see advertising in RIB. It is a good service to the subscribers, especially when it is in regards to new and interesting products.

(Alan Roe, England) I have no hesitation in renewing. I look forward each month with anticipation for the arrival of RIB. I've no objections to advertising, but the 5 pages of ads in May meant that there were 5 pages less of comments. Less ads -- please!

(David Potter, FL) RIB is a fine publication; from the sublime to the ridiculous--it fills a very large gap in the DX 'press'.

(Clarence Wilson, TX) RIB is worthwhile, but I am not fully satisfied with the way in which the space is used. Many of the opinions expressed are not directly related to specific SW programming nor are they related to the DXing & SWLing hobbies. Material that does not fit into the purpose of RIB should not be published. The advertising in RIB is welcome. I would like to see a large variety of ads concerning SW equipment in RIB.

(Creede Lambard, 2022 Custer, Billings MT 59101) RIB was one of the things that kept me sane in Saudi. Special thanks to Pterson for the BBC picks and to Goldstein for the AFRTS sked, and to everyone who wrote in while I was over there. It's great, gh, in spite of your 'selling out' by inserting ads, hi. Hello to Skip Wave. He's no Charlie Loudenboomer but I like him. Nuts to the professional criers of sour grapes. I enjoy RIB and what I get out of it, and I would not care much whether it were called RIB or Journal of Organic Dental Floss Farming. Richard Wood is a good man and fine Esperantist but I do feel he's missed the boat on RIB; outside the few people on the McFarland/Wood level few of us are professionally involved in radio and I doubt if any of us really want to write on the level he proposes. If we did we'd probably be attending IEEE seminars and presenting polysyllabic papers to QST. Nope, radio ought to be fun, darnit! Dry technical discussions of rigs and antennas bore the hell out of me on ham radio and would in RIB or anywhere else. If we're sophomoric and anecdotal, so be it. At least we have not yet tried to exceed our level of collective maximum competence.

(Lisa McGaw, NY) I share Richard Wood's desire for 'original research articles', etc. This would require substantial financial backing or editorial board members with independent incomes, so that earning a living does not interfere with dedicated pursuit of the ideal. However, a start could be made now, and I am sorry that Wood has not taken up gh's invitation to supply RIB with an article or two along the more academic line.

(Richard Stoller, NY) Richard Wood, you gotta be joking. Please, not all of us are sociologists! Most of us are just in SW 'for a good time'. It's a pleasant and educational diversion. You want book reviews? What books? All I see are statistical, station-frequency listings, or introductory slop. You want 'comparative analysis of program content of a systematic nature'?

Look, Dr. Wood. I am not an idiot. But I fail to grasp any meaning to that phrase. I suppose this double talk is sort of an intellectual dialect of 'legalese', eh? Now we come to the phrase, "...and cannot lead to a coherent view of the medium." When you have bright and imaginative people (which most RIB contributors appear to be), discussing as dynamic and as varied a hobby as SWL/DXing, do you, Dr. Wood, expect one nice fat homogenous view, which one can proudly hold up and proclaim to the world, "This (and this only) is my hobby" ??? I hope not. RIB may be 'anecdotal and sophomoric' but at least it's human. "Journal of Communications" sounds like one big stiff.

(Mike Barraclough, England) I don't think US mediumwave stations should be covered. Your NA contributors appreciate this coverage fair enough, but to me it's a waste. All I show the Review to are impressed but the sub is a little too high I think for them, until I work out the costs of postage! Then we end up wondering how you do it so cheaply. Next hurdle over here is remittance of money which is a headache...

gh: MW coverage will continue, since the great majority of subscribers are in North America. And some, such as Hoffman above, want to be able to read about stations they can't hear.

(Henry Rockwood, FL) I was sorry to see that Dr. Wood is dropping his subscription to RIB; however, I view RIB as perhaps the one publication in which each of us; professional; technical hobbyist; DXer; or SWLer can have a say.

(Norman A. Sorensen, TX) The publication is getting better. Please renew for another year.

(Gerry Bishop, PA) Advertising huh? Our subscription fees not enough for you? I know that you're not in it for the money, so what gives? For any SWL that wishes to know how other SWLs feel about ISWBC, RIB is the best thing going. Where else can we expound our views on the hobby, and on occasion, get pounded in return? It has certainly proved to be worth the price. What does ISSN 0149-9971 mean?

gh: The May ads were experimental, and trade-outs. Did you see the ad for RIB in May Atlas? If I could rely on a bit of regular advertising income, (and if I can find the time or help to edit it), every issue could be a 36-pager. ISSN numbers mean RIB is on record at the Library of Congress and in ISSN catalogues.

(Louis Goldstein, MA) Issue 13 was really a most pleasant surprise. Excellent cover artwork by the talented Diane Lévesque. Format improving. Inking more consistent from page to page. More endowed publications should take note of this operation!!! Photo on RIB 15 came out very well. Good idea! Hope ads will keep costs down and allow you to expand, not get smaller in content. USPS does all it can to discourage use of mails by increasing rates, cutting service.

(Will Sibus, NY) If you lose Ms. Lévesque, cancel my membership. I'm against women's lib, but not honest talent. Enuf said. Keep up the good work.

(Diane S. Lévesque, IL) Whereas FRENDX, SPEEDX, etc. are the business end of the clubs, RIB seems to be the club 'meetings' where members can chew the rag. In minor 'dialogues' hobbyists react to each other's statements and get ideas worked out. The kind of thing that would normally happen at a club meeting. The clubs themselves are not such a unifying element between members as RIB is with its contributors. What I like about RIB is that you aren't elbowed out in the cold if you don't get 'loyal'. In fact, contrasting opinion is what makes it what it is. I was very disappointed to have to wait until the very last page to discover that the cover-guy WASN'T gh after all... /gh: one reader thought it was you, hi./ About the Zionland thing, what you said was obviously a play on alphabetical arrangement, nothing derogatory one way or the other. Betcha he just got ticked off by just seeing the word. Gee whiz!

(Amnon Nadav, NY) I for one do not consider the term ZIONLAND offensive. Reference to Zion as an alternative name for Israel appears in Israel's national anthem "Hatikva" (The Hope).

(Steve Kennedy, FL) Overall, I feel that RIB is a good magazine. The only magazine where a DXer can express his/her opinions without worrying abt some dumb drunk red-neck trying to pick a fight over some issue! Keep up the good work, Glenn. RIB is still one of the best buys in the DX press.

Review of International Broadcasting

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PURPOSE OF RIB: To provide an open forum for the discussion of programming on shortwave, and secondarily on other media; and the discussion of other topics related to the DXing and SWLing hobbies.

DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed in RIB are those of the person to whom attributed. The editor/publisher expressly disclaims any liability.

LISTENERS NOTEBOOK complements RIB with extensive factual information on schedules and news developments in ISWBC. Also edited by gh, it appears in FRENDX, the monthly journal of the North American Shortwave Association, Box 13, Liberty IN 47353. Sample: $1.

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Cover Art by Diane S. Levesque

TIME TO RENEW? If there is a '17 on your address label, this is the last issue of RIB on your present subscription. This is the only notice you will receive. Thanks for your cooperation, and I hope you will enjoy your next year with R I B! (gh)